HOGAN & VADER COLLIDE

WCW World Championship Wrestling™

The Official Monthly Magazine of World Championship Wrestling
Issue 3 May 1995

WCW SUPERBRAWL V
FULL COLOR COVERAGE INSIDE

VADER IN THE HOTSEAT

Color pin-ups of HULK HOGAN DUSTIN RHODES & AVALANCHE

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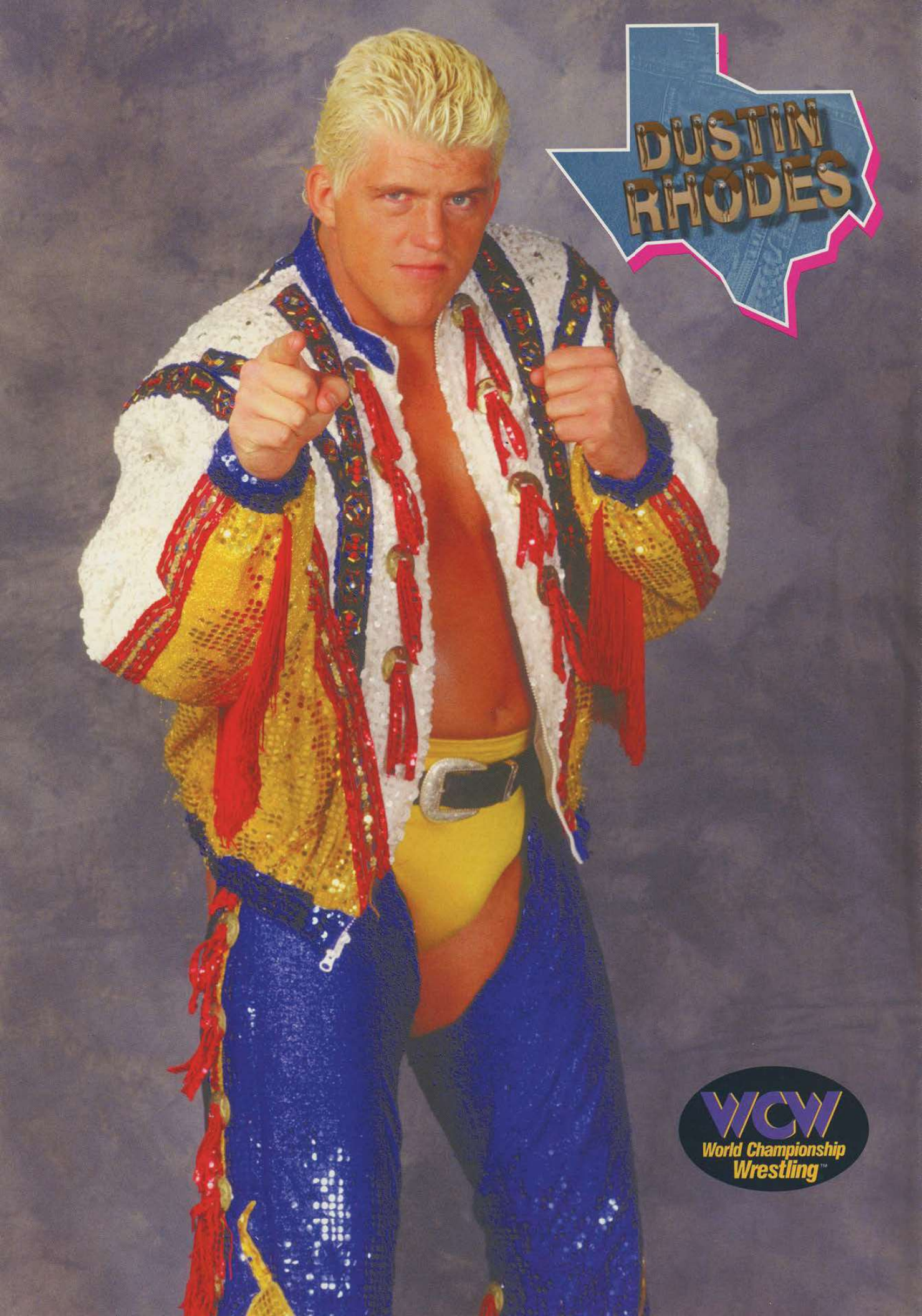
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WCW
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WCW World Championship Wrestling™

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Editor's Note

The best part of my job as Editor, is the opportunity I get to travel around the World meeting up with you, the great fans of World Championship Wrestling. I have to say that your enthusiasm and the very positive reaction you give to us and everyone at WCW never fails to impress me. From Nashville to Vegas and Baltimore to Tupelo, you have taken us into your hearts and I can tell you it isn't unappreciated. One of the things I enjoy the most is sitting down with you to discuss your likes and dislikes. Inevitably the conversation will turn back to me and you will ask for my opinions. In fact one of the major topics in the mailbag this month was who are my favorite wrestlers and what were my favorite matches. This is particularly topical in view of the fact that you have just voted for your favorites. Straying off of the point for a moment, the reactions from all of the award winners, when I presented their awards to them, on your behalf, was incredible. To a man the winners, well, except for Bobby Heenan, were visibly moved and all said the same thing...it's a humbling experience when the fans vote for you as their favorite, particularly when there is so much competition in WCW. Anyway back to the point at hand. The simple truth is, I don't have any favorite wrestlers. I enjoy watching each and every one of them. I don't condone the tactics that some of them employ but I enjoy the sport for the spectacle. Also, as the Editor of this magazine, it would be grossly inappropriate for me (not to mention potentially life threatening) to pick favorites. Can you imagine some of the charges that could be levelled at me if I ran a feature on one of my "favorites." It just doesn't bear thinking about. So, I will continue to decline giving an answer to this question. As for my favorite matches, well that is slightly easier although it is difficult to be objective on this matter, as wrestling is subjective. You know the old saying, "One man's meat...!" If I had to be squeezed to comment and that's exactly what you all keep doing, I would say that there were three matches that really stand out in my recent memory. In no particular order they were Hulk Hogan vs. Ric Flair at Halloween Havoc, Dustin Rhodes vs. Vader at The Clash of the Champions and Hulk Hogan vs. Vader from SuperBrawl. Now I know most of you are not going to agree with my choices, but that's OK. Just imagine how uninteresting wrestling and, life for that matter, would be if we didn't have our own opinions. Please don't ever stop letting me hear YOUR opinions.

One more thing before I sign off. I just want to wish Harley Race a speedy recovery on behalf of everyone at the magazine. We look forward to once again being able to print his caustic comments in future issues.

Colin Bowman, Editor

PS. Apologies for the errors in Crossword #2. I don't know what happened but by re-numbering the Down clues as follows, the puzzle will work: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21. Slapped wrists all round!

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WCW UPdate

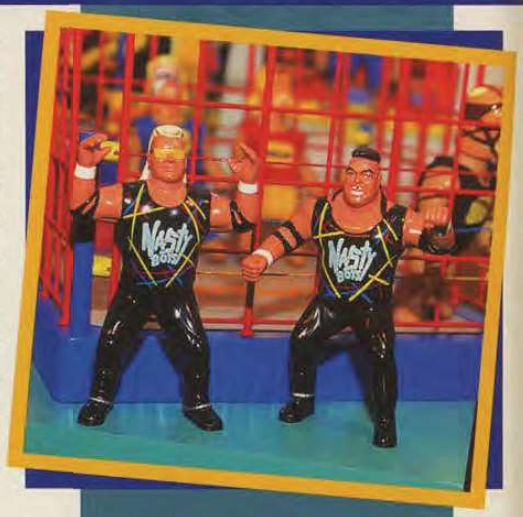
Keeping you up to date with all of the latest happenings in and around World Championship Wrestling.

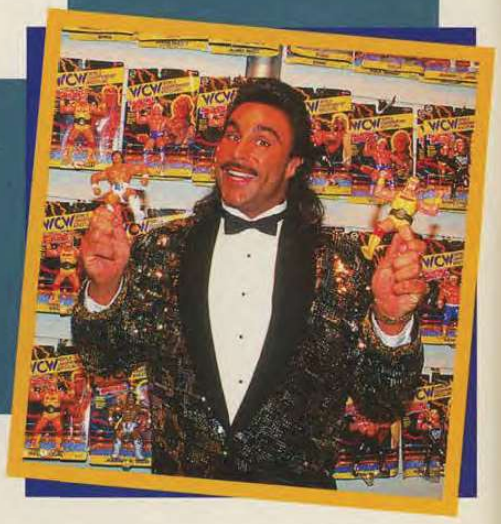
A Flair for TROUBLE

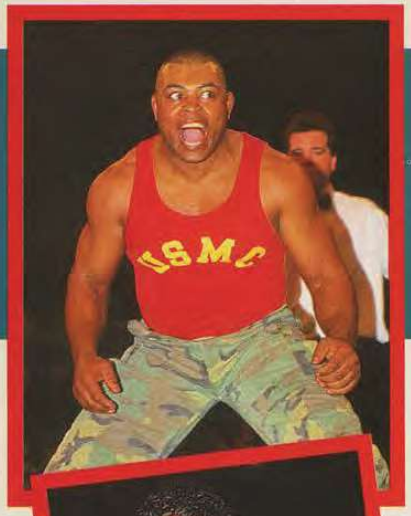
As soon as Ric Flair's return to the ring was ratified by WCW's Board of Directors, he was challenged to a match by Japan's greatest wrestler, Antonio Inoki. There has been no love lost between these legends over the years and so a match has been signed to take place at the May Day Stadium in Pyong-yang, North Korea on April 29th. This special card, which will also feature The Steiners and The Road Warriors, is expected to be attended by in excess of 100,000 people. This will be the World's largest ever crowd for a pro wrestling event.

WCW INVADE TOY FAIR

WCW's brightest stars including Hulk Hogan, "Macho Man" Randy Savage, Johnny B. Badd and The Nasty Boys attended the annual Toy Fair in New York to help launch the new line of WCW toys. On show for the first time were the complete range of new WCW Action Figures which are available in all good stores now. Wrestlers featured include Hulk Hogan, Vader, Ric Flair, Sting, The Nasty Boys and Harlem Heat. Other items that are due for release in the near future include WCW Hero Heads of Sting and Hulk Hogan, new WCW Wrestling Buddies featuring Hulk, Vader, Flair and Sting and a 3-foot-high Hulk Hogan action doll. The Hulkster also inked the deal that will see his album American Made released in the United States by Select Records. On the subject of WCW merchandise, the new WCW Trading Card set from Cardz, will be available at the end of April and a set of 54 collectible Pogs produced by Pacific Rim Trading Caps have also recently gone on sale. All this information is relevant to the USA and Canada, news about the UK & Ireland release dates will be available soon.







GETTING TOUGHER

If you thought life couldn't get any more dangerous for WCW's fan favorites, with maniacs like Vader, Big Bubba, Kevin Sullivan and Avalanche already running wild, think again! Two of the most dangerous men to ever step inside the squared circle are now on the loose and WCW may never be the same. First, there is Col. Parker's bodyguard Meng. After almost a year at the Colonel's side, this martial arts master has finally entered the ring and the impact has been instantly felt by everyone who he has faced. The other madman who is starting to make his presence felt is "The Marine" Sgt Craig Pittman. After representing his beloved Corps for over 13 years, during which time he won several amateur world championships, Pittman is aiming straight for the top of WCW and defies anyone to get in his way. Just one word of warning to all you fans, DON'T CALL HIM GOMER!

Slamboree update

The next Pay-Per-View from WCW will be Slamboree '95 which will emanate from the Bayfront Center in St Petersburg, Florida on May 21st 1995. It will be broadcast live on National PPV from 7pm ET, so check in with your local cable operator for availability. "The Legends Reunion" is always one of WCW's most popular events of the year so those of you wanting to attend in person should contact local Ticketmaster outlets and make your reservations today!

BIRTHDAY CORNER

Birthdays this month include:

April 20 **Butcher**

April 21 **Bobby Heenan**

April 29 **Paul Roma**

May 1 **Booker T**

May 2 **Big Bubba Rogers**

May 6 **Brian Knobs**

CRACKING UP

Our spies backstage inform us that all is not well within The Three Faces of Fear. After SuperBrawl V, there was a furious argument between Kevin Sullivan and The Butcher which had to be resolved by Avalanche. Now, although everything seems to have been sorted out, there is no doubt that cracks are beginning to appear.

WCW EVENT NEWS

Here are the dates of WCW's upcoming major events:

May 21 1995 **Slamboree**

June 18 1995 **Great American Bash**

July 16 1995 **Bash at the Beach**

August 17 1995 **Clash of the Champions**

September 17 1995 **Fall Brawl**

October 29 1995 **Halloween Havoc**

December 27 1995 **Starrcade**

WCW UPdate

INTO THE FAST LANE

Following hot on the heels of WCW's sponsorship of Billy Standridge and the #47 Ford Thunderbird on the NASCAR circuit, WCW has joined with Richard Petty and Tracy Lawrence to form a unique marketing alliance. Known as The Richard Petty Pit Tour and launched during the Goody's 300 at Daytona, the venture is the brainchild of stock car racing legend Petty. He has long had a dream of combining Country Music, Stock Car Racing and Wrestling together! He said, "Most of these folks that come out every weekend to watch us race also enjoy good country music and wrestling just like I do." To mark the occasion Petty's #43 Busch Grand National Pontiac, driven by Rodney Combs, was decaled to promote SuperBrawl V. Throughout the season it will also carry the WCW identification. Rodney is very excited by the WCW team supporting him and told us, "I like the fact that we have teamed with the real heavyweights in the entertainment business. The King is synonymous with stock car racing. Tracy is one of country's brightest stars with three platinum albums in less than three years. The WCW has become the premier wrestling organization with the world's most renowned wrestler, Hulk Hogan." Negotiations are currently taking place for the team to participate in a major event as part of the Memorial Day Weekend festivities surrounding the Coca Cola 600. We will bring you more details as they are made known. The Hulkster, who as you can see by the pictures had a fabulous day in Daytona, proclaimed "I'll take care of business in the ring while Richard handles things on the track. What'cha gonna do when Hulk Hogan, WCW and the #43 car run wild on you!"

WORD SEARCH

WRESTLING SUPERSHOWS

T	X	G	L	P	C	W	R	G	A	A	H	E	C	E	L
C	D	R	H	I	O	A	I	L	R	S	A	0	A	S	W
H	E	E	K	J	V	L	S	E	C	T	L	R	R	O	A
A	F	A	C	L	A	S	H	E	U	A	W	A	R	P	R
M	I	T	V	J	H	K	E	T	C	R	I	G	S	N	B
P	T	O	G	B	K	R	P	S	E	R	E	I	P	E	R
I	F	Q	O	X	O	E	S	S	U	C	H	N	R	E	E
O	C	O	M	B	A	T	T	C	M	A	E	A	I	W	P
N	A	N	M	E	B	L	A	S	T	D	I	R	N	O	U
S	O	A	X	Y	E	R	W	V	E	E	K	A	G	L	S
Z	L	C	B	P	F	A	L	L	R	T	E	G	O	L	V
S	P	I	J	E	D	E	P	M	A	T	S	L	T	A	A
U	F	R	K	D	N	S	I	I	N	B	E	A	C	H	K
P	D	E	R	O	S	N	E	C	N	U	T	A	L	H	L
D	O	M	P	Y	U	C	H	S	A	B	G	N	I	I	E
A	N	A	W	B	T	C	A	P	I	T	A	L	N	E	N

Every year, WCW produces the greatest wrestling supershows in the world. Inside the grid are 20 words taken from their titles. Can you find them?
AMERICAN, BASH, BEACH, BLAST, CAPITAL, CHAMPIONS, CLASH, COMBAT, FALL, GREAT, HALLOWEEN, HAVOC, SLAMBOREE, SPRING, STAMPEDE, STARRCADE, SUPERBRAWL, UNCENSORED, WRESTLE, WAR

WILDCAT WILLIE'S

F S F U N
E A B W O
T R N E L

TRIVIA QUIZ

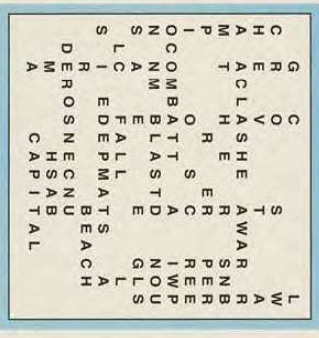
Ten questions to test your knowledge about WCW.

1. Who won the tournament for the vacated WCW Television title in 1993?
2. Barry Windham was one of the Skyscrapers. True or False?
3. Who did Big Bubba used to guard?
4. What kind of match was selected on the wheel at Halloween Havoc in 1993?
5. Who was the shortest reigning WCW/NWA World Champion?
6. What stipulation surrounded the Starrcade 1983 match between Roddy Piper and Greg Valentine?
7. Who won the Iron Team Challenge at Starrcade '89?
8. Name the last two wrestlers who competed in WCW as The Fabulous Freebirds?
9. Who won the World title when it was vacated in 1991 by Ric Flair?
10. Who beat Dory Funk Jr. on May 24th 1973 to win his first World Championship?

TRIVIA QUIZ ANSWERS

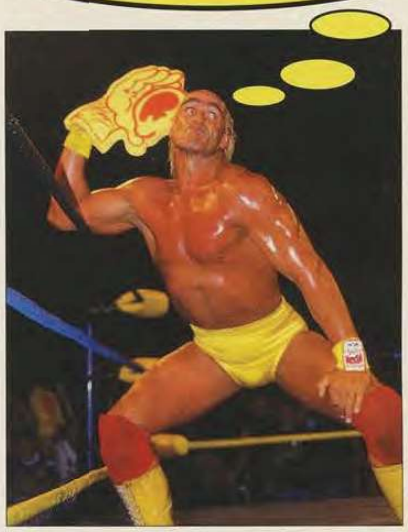
1. Paul Orndorff
2. False
3. Jim Cornette
4. Texas Death
5. Tommy Rich
6. Dog Collar Chain
7. Road Warriors
8. Michael P.S. Hayes & Jimmy Jam Garvin
9. Lex Luger
10. Harley Race

WORDSEARCH SOLUTION



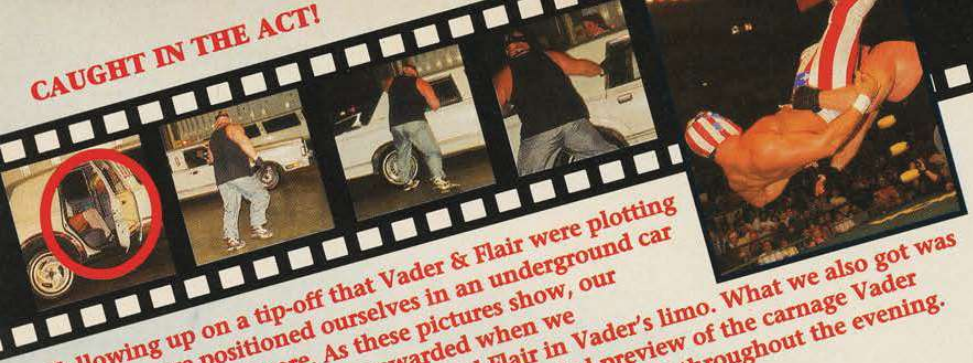
CAPTION COMPETITION

"I can't hear a diesel engine!"

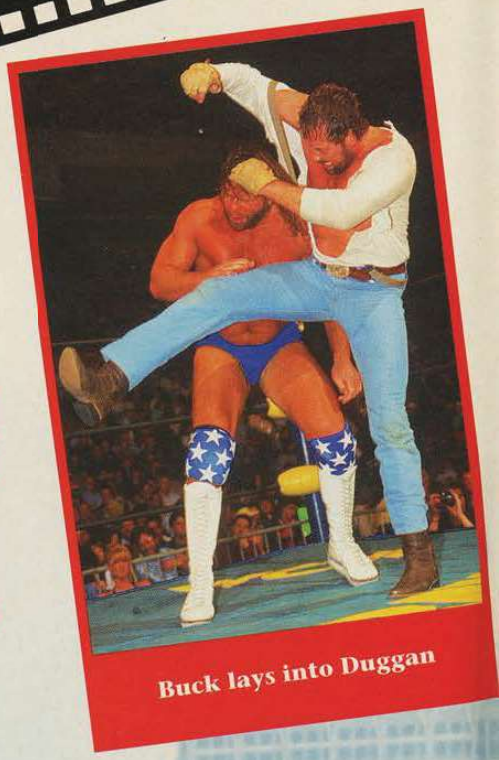


The winning entry to the caption competition from Issue 1 was sent in by **John J. Williams** of Swansea, West Glamorgan. The other four winners will be notified in the mail shortly.

CAUGHT IN THE ACT!



Following up on a tip-off that Vader & Flair were plotting together, we positioned ourselves in an underground car park in Baltimore. As these pictures show, our patience was rewarded when we photographed Flair in Vader's limo. What we also got was an unexpected preview of the carnage Vader would cause throughout the evening.



Buck lays into Duggan

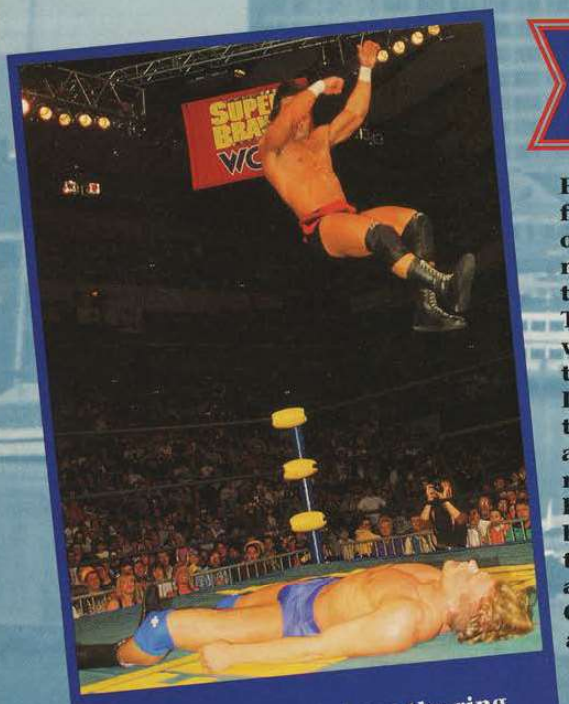
WCW SUPERBRAWL V

It was a night of excitement, drama and controversy as WCW turned the famed wrestling city of Baltimore upside-down with SuperBrawl V! It will go down in history as the night Hulk Hogan beat Vader by disqualification, only to learn that Ric Flair was back and meaner than ever!

In the fifth edition of SuperBrawl, held February 19 at the fabled Baltimore Arena, WCW fans and even The Great Muta -who had flown in specially from Tokyo to see the main event- finally got what they've long wanted: A chance to see the Immortal Hulk Hogan lock horns with the vicious Vader in a bout for the World Heavyweight title. The fans in the sold-out arena never dreamed that not only would they see the return of Ric Flair, but that they'd also see him become involved in one of the greatest main events of all time!

There were six other tremendous bouts to go along with this classic Hogan/Vader confrontation. Join us as we take you through the night that will forever live in WCW folklore!

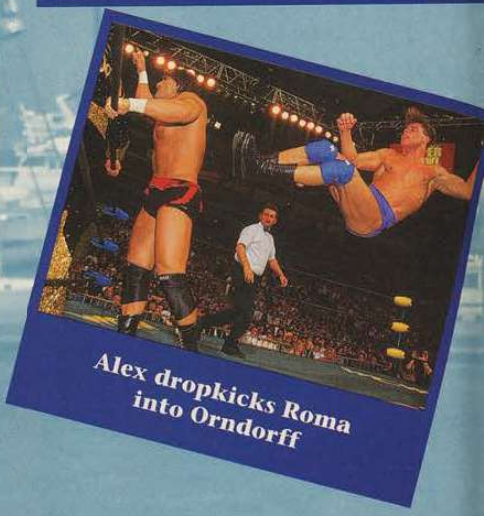
Alex endures a painful backbreaker



Roma flies high above the ring

Alex Wright vs. Paul Roma

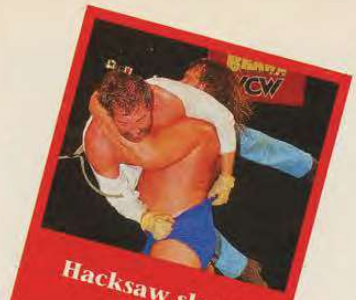
Even before this bout, many fans believed that the 18-year-old "Das Wunderkind" would never stand a chance against the more experienced Roma. Those fears were compounded when Roma's partner in the tag team of Pretty Wonderful, Paul Orndorff, strolled down to ringside and began taunting and goading Wright. Orndorff managed to keep his hands to himself throughout the bout but "Mr. Wonderful" disgusted the fans by breaking up a pin attempt by Alex. As Roma and Orndorff talked on the ring apron, Wright dropkicked Roma into Orndorff, knocking Orndorff to the arena floor. Alex then rolled up the dazed and confused Roma for the pin and the biggest victory of his young wrestling career!



Alex dropkicks Roma into Orndorff

Hacksaw Jim Duggan vs. Bunkhouse Buck

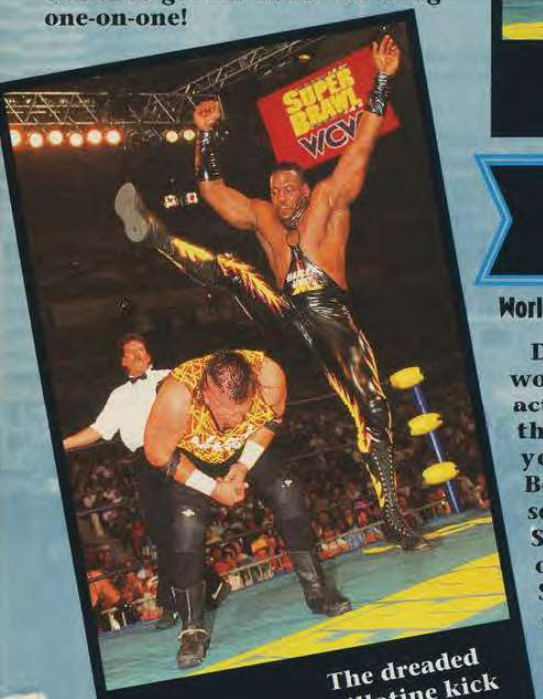
In one of the most disgusting acts in memory, Buck started to brawl with Duggan even before Hacksaw could put down his American flag! This was a barnburner from the very start as Duggan and Buck brawled both in and out of the ring. Buck stooped to even more heinous tactics than usual, using his bullrope to smash Duggan in the throat. Distraction from Col. Parker backfired, however, when Parked tried to belt Duggan from outside the ring. When Buck whipped Duggan into the ropes,he accidentally sent Hacksaw careering right into Parker. Parker hit the floor with a thud, which allowed Duggan to belt Buck with his football tackle and score the pin. That didn't prevent the scurrilous Meng from hitting the ring, blasting Duggan with a karate kick and following up by clamping Duggan in his dangerous nerve hold. It took three WCW referees to end the carnage and now Duggan wants to get his hands on Meng one-on-one!



Hacksaw slams Buck

Duggan drags Buck to the corner

Brian executes a double DDT



The dreaded guillotine kick

The "winning" pinfall

Dave Sullivan vs. Kevin Sullivan

This was the match that showed there may well be some cracks forming in the alliance of the Three Faces Of Fear! Fans were disappointed when Kevin pinned his amiable brother, Dave, but that was after Kevin had rammed Dave into Butcher, who was standing on the ring apron. The blow resulted in a serious head injury to Butcher. For some undisclosed reason, Kevin walked back alone to the dressing room, leaving Butcher on the arena floor writhing in agony! Is there any level to which Kevin Sullivan will not stoop?

Dave attacks Kevin

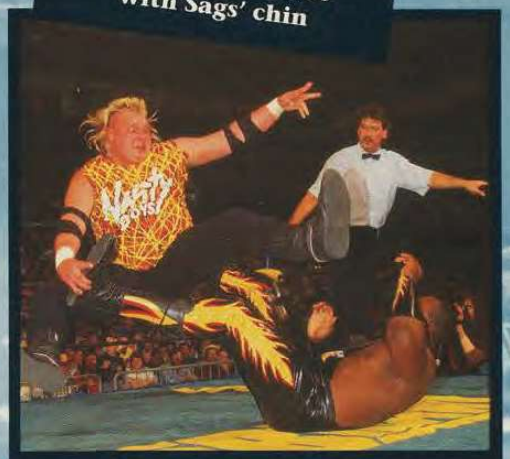
It's payback time

Harlem Heat vs. The Nasty Boys

World Tag Team Championship Match

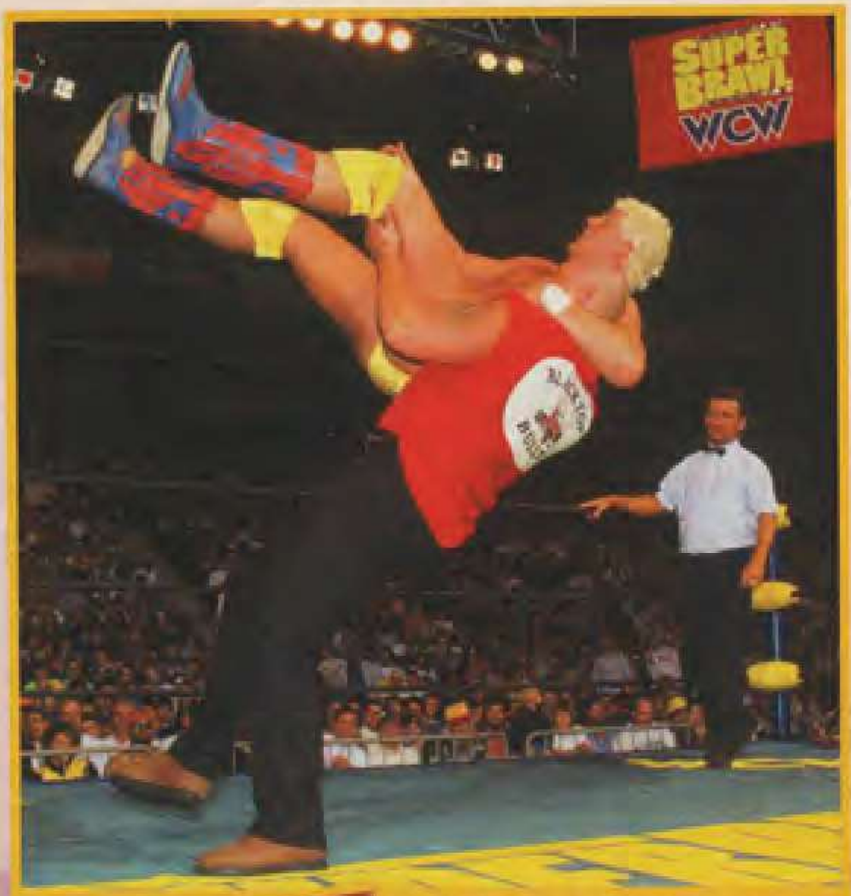
Do you like your brawls wild, wooly and full of hard-hitting action? There was no science in this bout whatsoever, unless you consider Sags kicking Booker T in the stomach to be scientific wrestling!Naturally, Sister Sherri got involved often and at one point helped Stevie Ray batter Sags outside the ring. Fans were ecstatic when Knobs pinned Booker T to apparently score the pinfall victory for the championship.However, WCW referees, led by veteran arbiter Randy Anderson, ruled that the Nasties should have lost the match by disqualification when Sags had earlier thrown Stevie Ray over the top rope. Sags and Knobs were disappointed, but they took comfort in the knowledge that they nearly beat the Heat at their own down and dirty game!

Booker T connects with Sags' chin


Stevie Ray feels the full weight of Knobs' legdrop

Blacktop Bully vs. Dustin Rhodes

Before the bout, WCW Commissioner Nick Bockwinkel ordered Meng back to the dressing room because of the chaos he caused during the earlier Duggan/Buck bout. Unfortunately for "The Natural," a truly great effort was ruined by the chicanery of the unruly Parker. Early in the bout, Rhodes kicked the trucker off the ropes to the floor, nearly wiping out veteran TV cameraman, Jackie Crockett and our own editor and photographer, Colin Bowman, at the same time! Dustin showed the 18-wheel renegade what being a great pro wrestler is all about, locking him up with arm and leglocks as well as dishing out the fisticuffs. Dustin nearly scored the pin following a bulldog headlock, but Parker put Bully's foot on the ropes to avert the loss. Dustin suplexed Parker into the ring in retaliation! However revenge would be sweet, as laterwhen Dustin tried to suplex a dazed Bully back into the ring,Parker pulled Dustin's leg and held on, giving Bully the illegal assistance he needed to score a most unwarranted victory!



Bully gains the advantage over Rhodes

Dustin catches Parker with a suplex

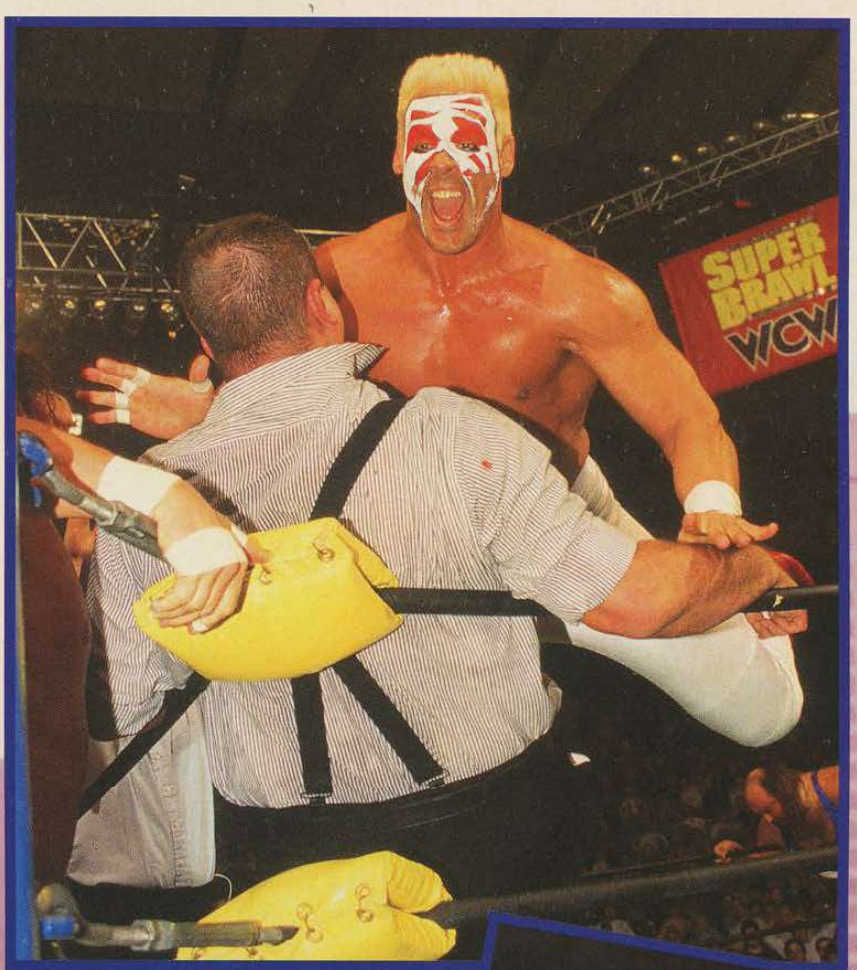
Blacktop tries to suffocate Dustin

Bye-bye Meng

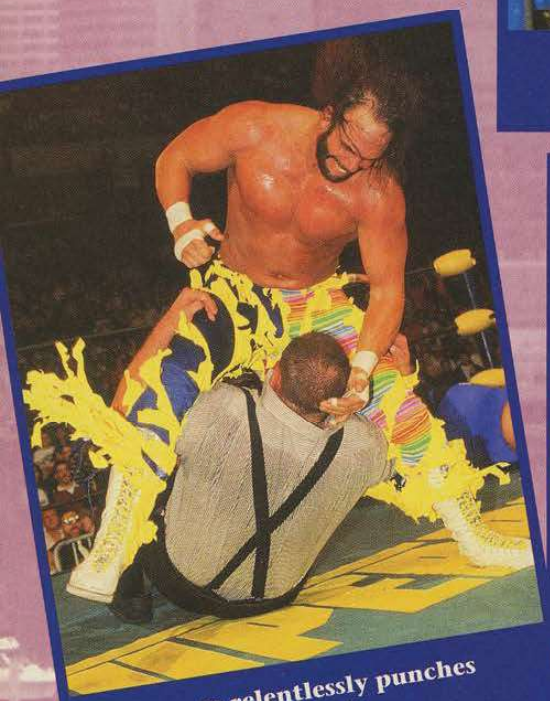
Sweet revenge for Parker

Sting & Randy Savage vs. Avalanche & Big Bubba

Imagine, if you will the following: Sting suplexing Bubba from the TOP ROPE! Savage blasting Bubba from the top turnbuckle all the way down to the arena floor! Avalanche averting a Savage pin attempt by pressing him almost through the mat! Sting splashing both Avalanche and Bubba in succession! Bubba rocking Sting with closed fists! Avalanche blasting Sting with a crushing clothesline and slam! Sting bodyslamming Avalanche! All this happened in this incredible bout, as Sting and Savage used all their savvy to subdue the 837-pound duo. In the end, Sting pinned Avalanche after blasting him with a clothesline from the top rope. This may have been a clear cut and impressive victory for Sting and Savage, but both men insist they haven't yet finished with Bubba and Avalanche!



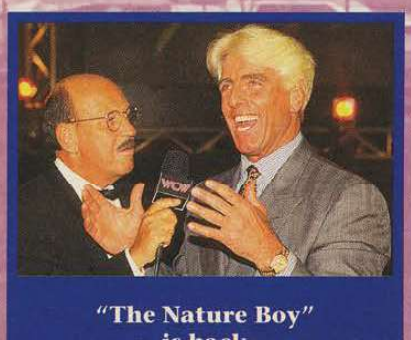
The Stinger Splash



Savage relentlessly punches Big Bubba

Sting is whipped into the corner

I want Flair



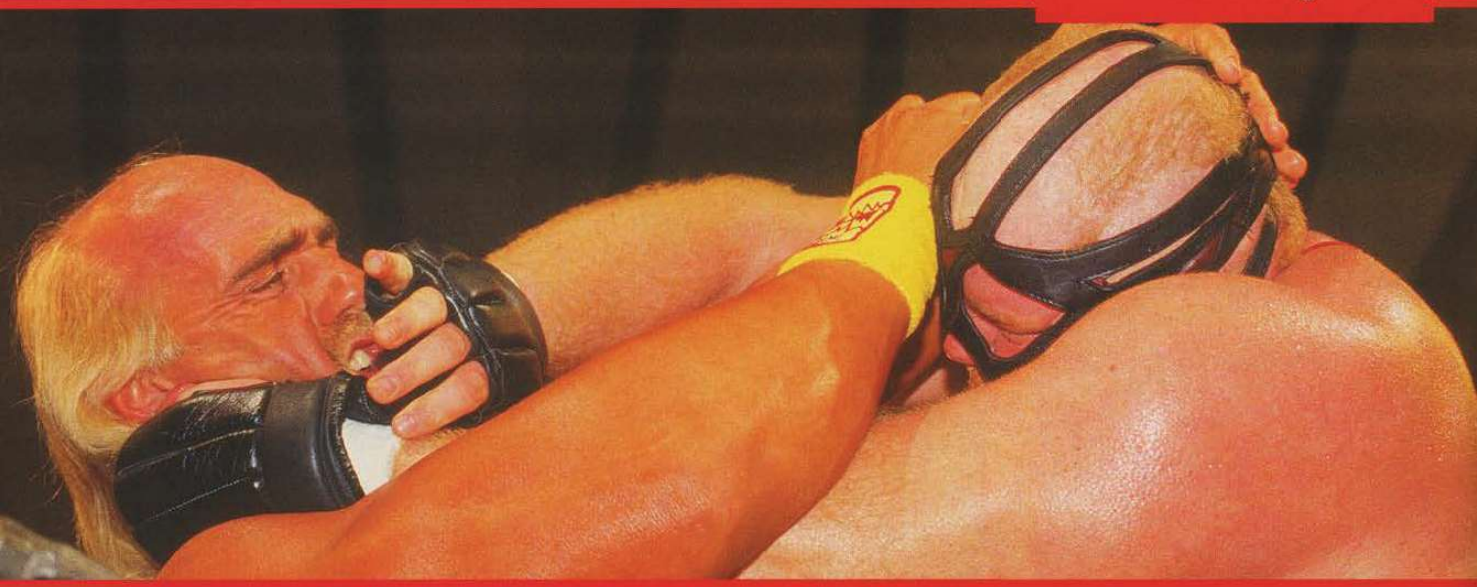
"The Nature Boy" is back

Savage launches himself on a dazed Bubba

Bubba socks it to Sting

WCW SUPERBRAWL V

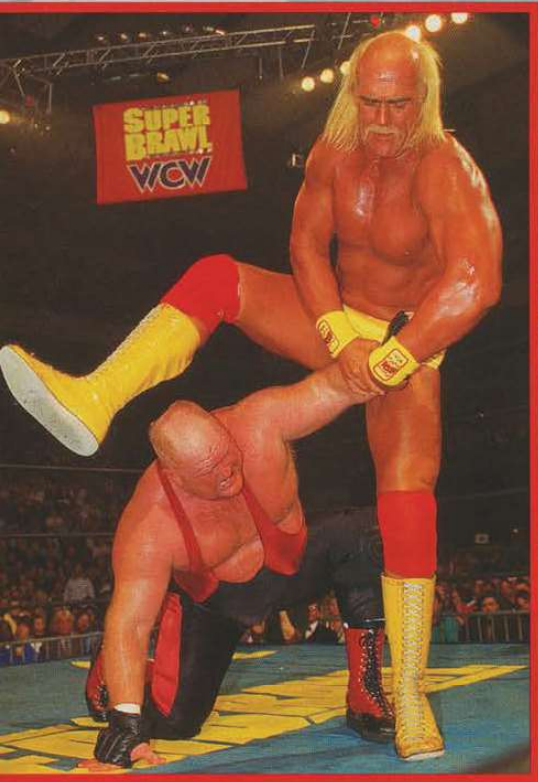
Vader tried to intimidate Hogan



The time for talk was over as both men battled for early supremacy

HOGAN VS. VADER

WCW WORLD HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP

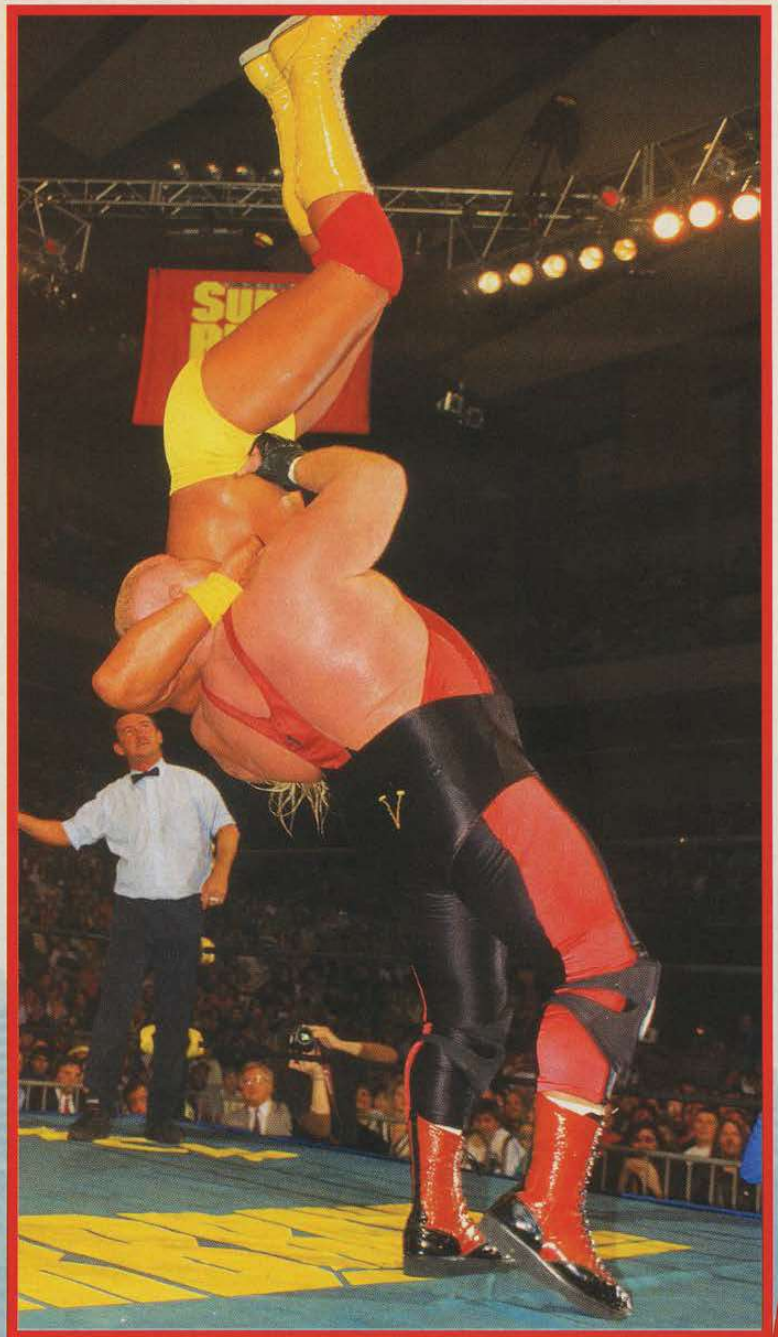


Hogan skillfully wrestles Vader to the mat

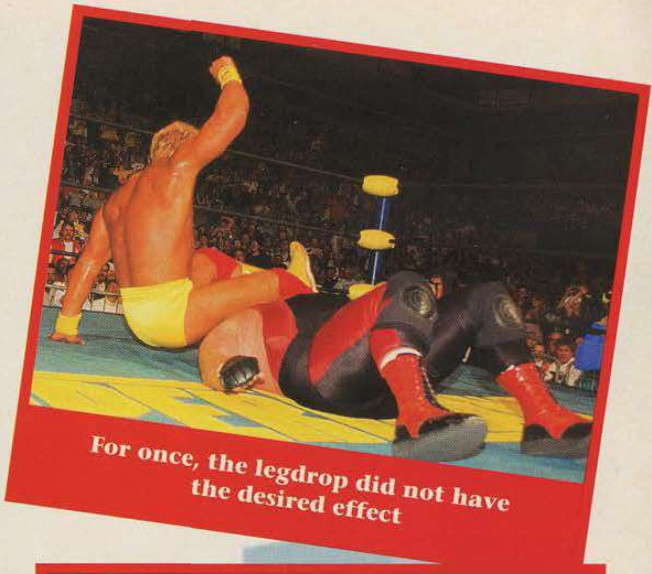
This one had it all: The power of Vader, the mystique of "Hulkamania" and the presence of Ric Flair at ringside. Earlier on the card, Flair took a seat at ringside to "watch the action," but soon it was proven that Flair had indeed formed an alliance with Vader. The 450-pound ruffian had spent most of the preceding Main Event telecast ripping up any wrestler, auto, or announcer he could get his hands on, including Eric Bischoff inside the arena and Tony Schiavone outside of it! However, against Hogan, Vader soon learned that he couldn't bully a legend. Hogan shook off all kinds of incredible power maneuvers, including a Vader drop from the second rope.

Vader sends Hogan hurtling across the ring

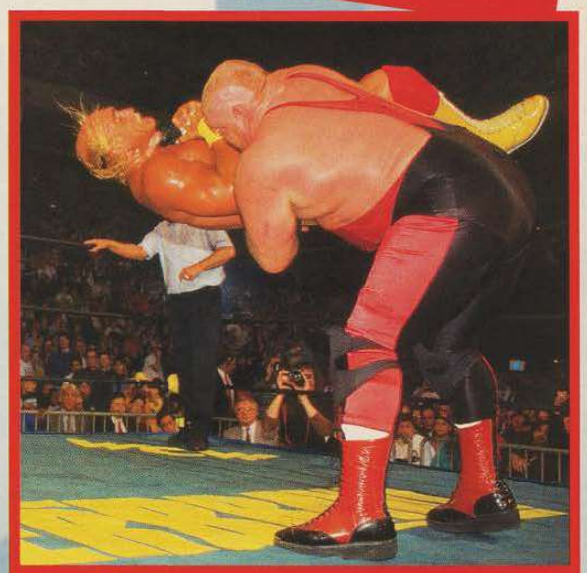
A powerful Hogan clothesline propels Vader out of the ring



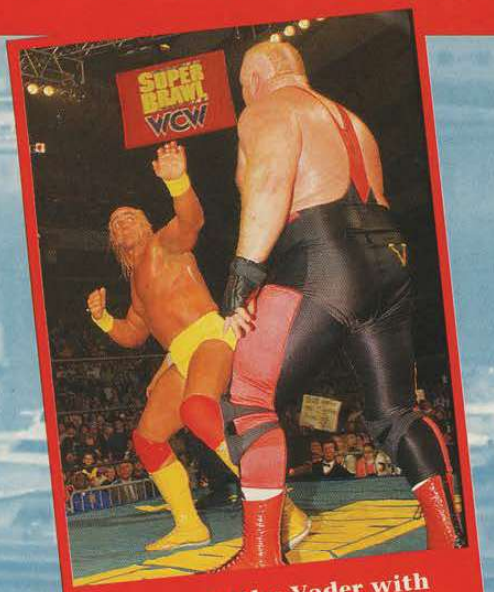
Vader takes control with a text-book suplex



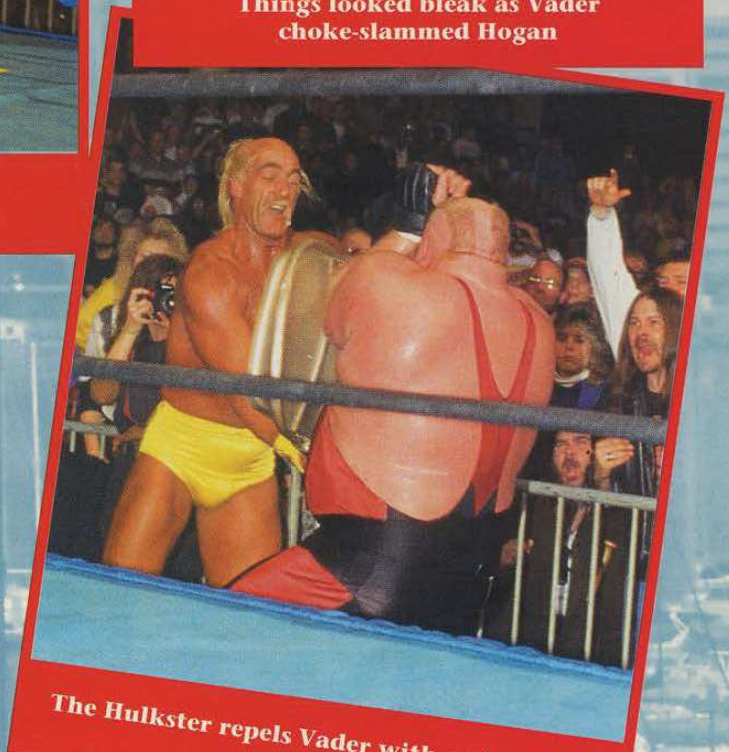
For once, the legdrop did not have the desired effect



Things looked bleak as Vader choke-slammed Hogan



Hogan rattles Vader with a ferocious punch

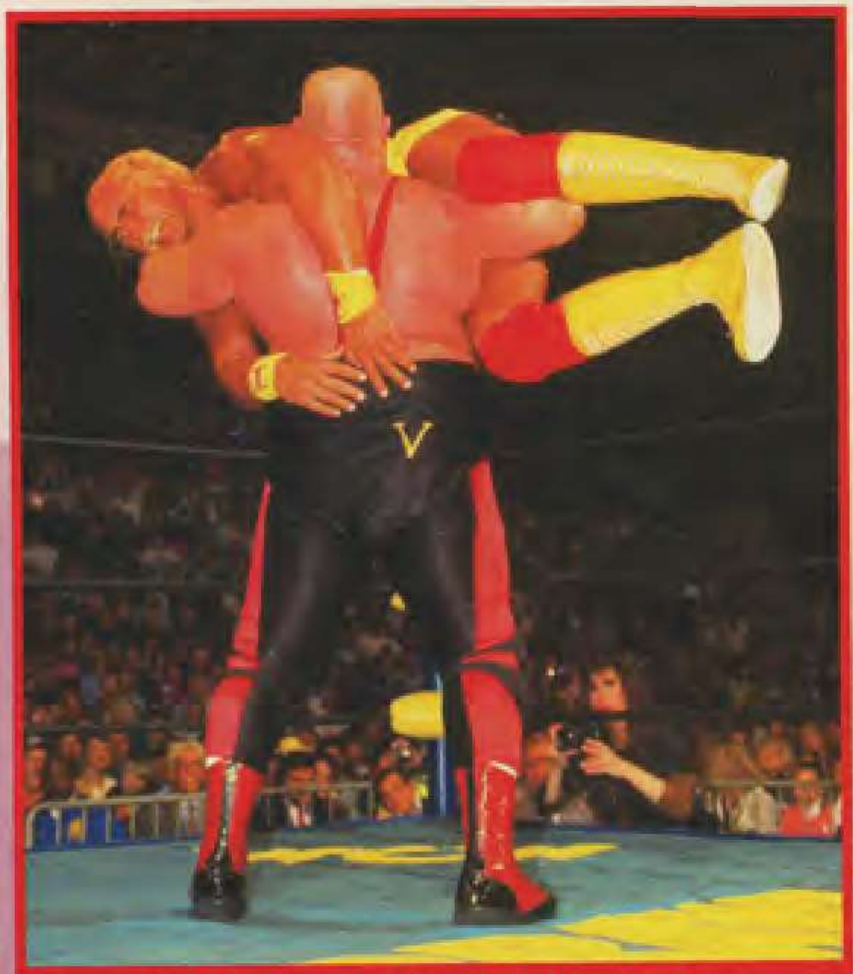


The Hulkster repels Vader with a steel chair

WCW
SUPERBRAWL V

Hogan vs. Vader

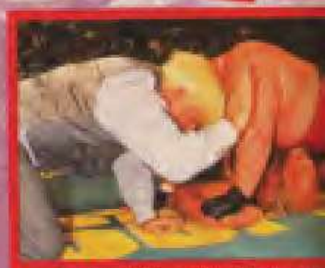
Hogan manages to roll out of the way of the Vadersault

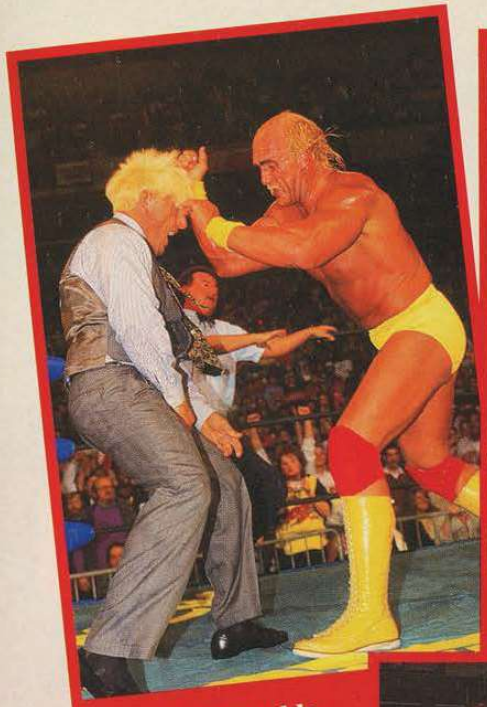

Vader demonstrates the extent of his power as he picks up Hogan as if he was a baby

Amazingly, Vader later kicked out of Hogan's pin attempt following his legdrop. Hogan only got a one-count! When Hogan questioned referee Randy Anderson about that count, Vader bombed Hogan from behind, kayoing Anderson in the process. Vader then blasted Hogan with a massive power bomb, but there was no referee to make the count! Shockingly, Flair ran in the ring and tried to drag Anderson over to make the pin, but not before stomping Hogan. Even more amazingly, Hogan made a comeback, knocking Vader from the ring. Flair unwisely returned to the ring, and was caught by Hogan, as well as the ref, who disqualified Vader for outside interference. Vader returned and prompted a vicious double-team. Just when it seemed as if Flair would apply the figure-four while Vader leaped on the champion from the top rope, Sting and Savage ran to the ring to end the ambush. Now Hogan has to face Vader AND Flair! Can even a champion as great as Hogan withstand those kind of odds?

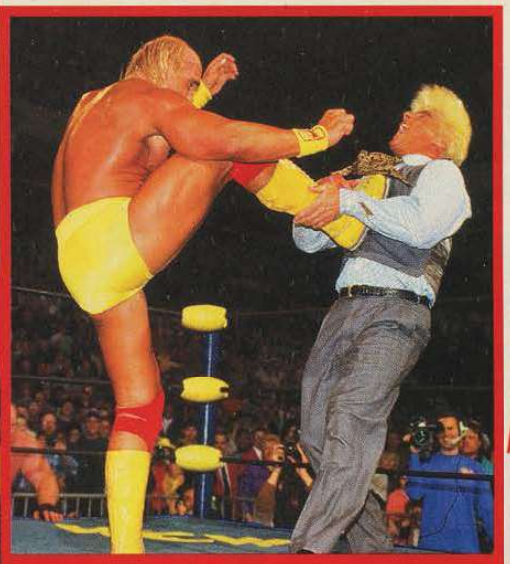
The Vader Bomb devastates the Champ...

Vader bombs Hogan into referee Anderson, knocking him out

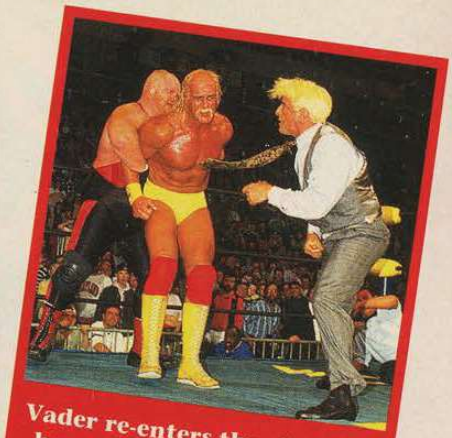

...but with only Flair on hand to make the count, he keeps the title



Despite the odds, Hogan fights back



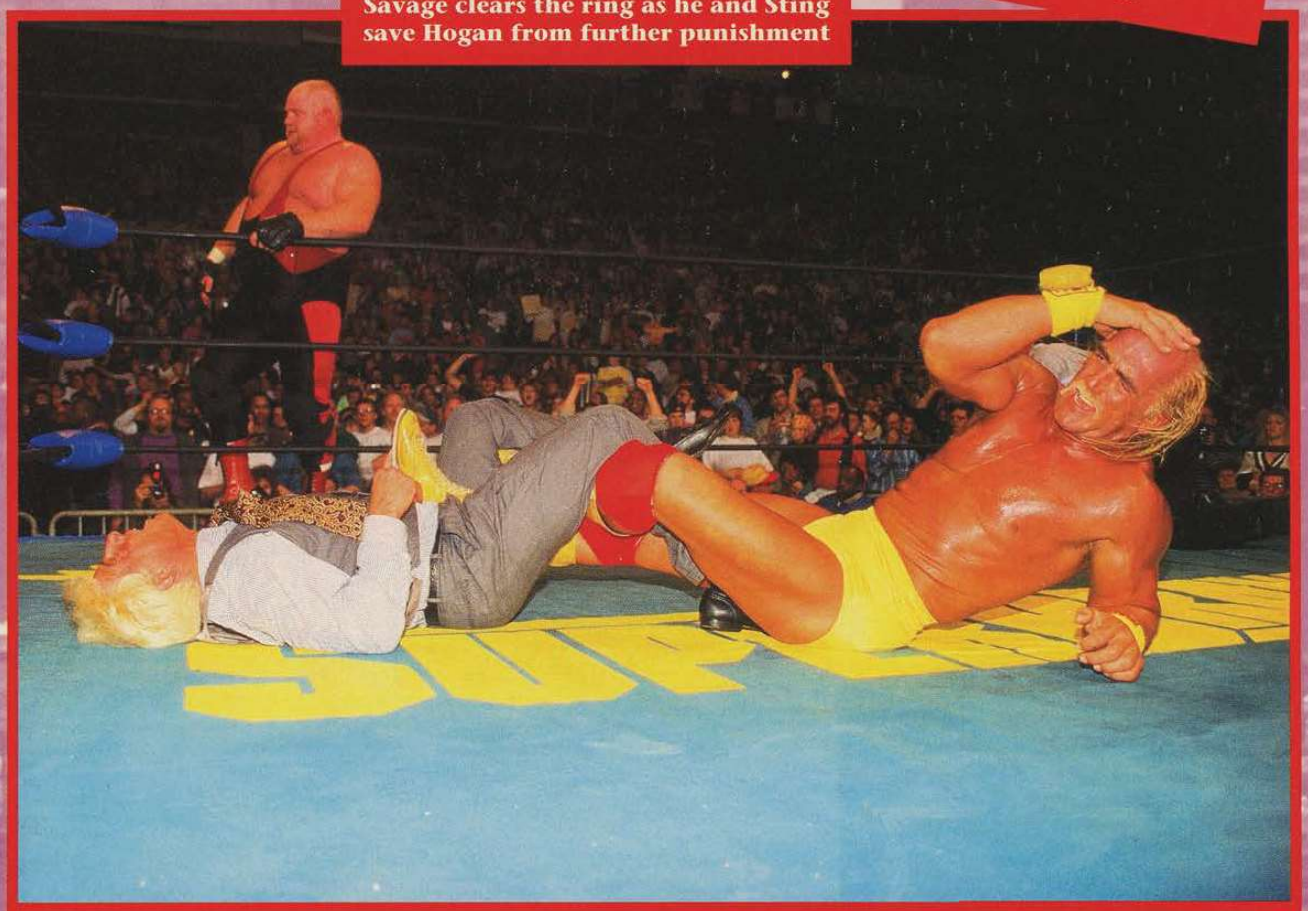
Hogan's boot nearly goes straight through Flair's chest



Vader re-enters the ring and he and Flair regain control

Savage clears the ring as he and Sting save Hogan from further punishment

Hogan, Savage & Sting still united



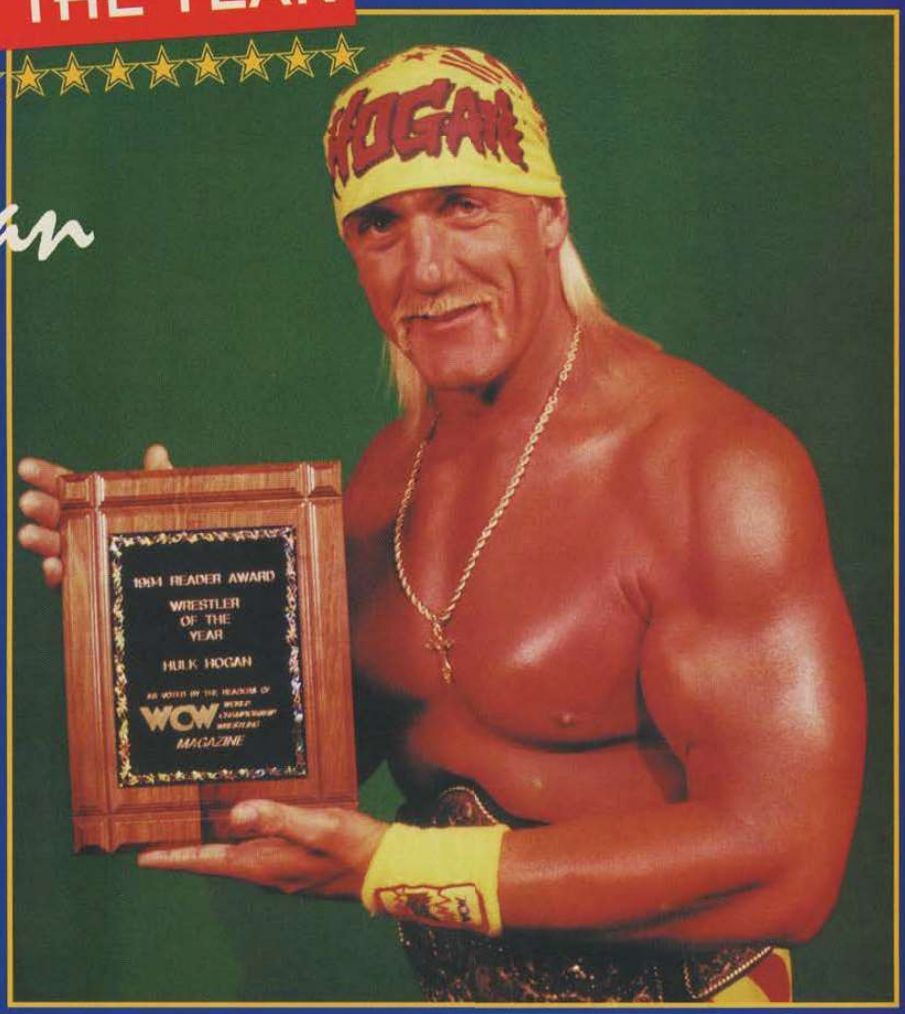
With Hogan locked in the figure four, Flair instructs Vader to splash him from the top rope

the 1994

In our inaugural issue, we asked you to send in your ballots in four award categories. Did you ever! Thousands of you voted for your favorites. These stars and personalities comprise the very best of the best from 1994!

WRESTLER OF THE YEAR

hulk hogan



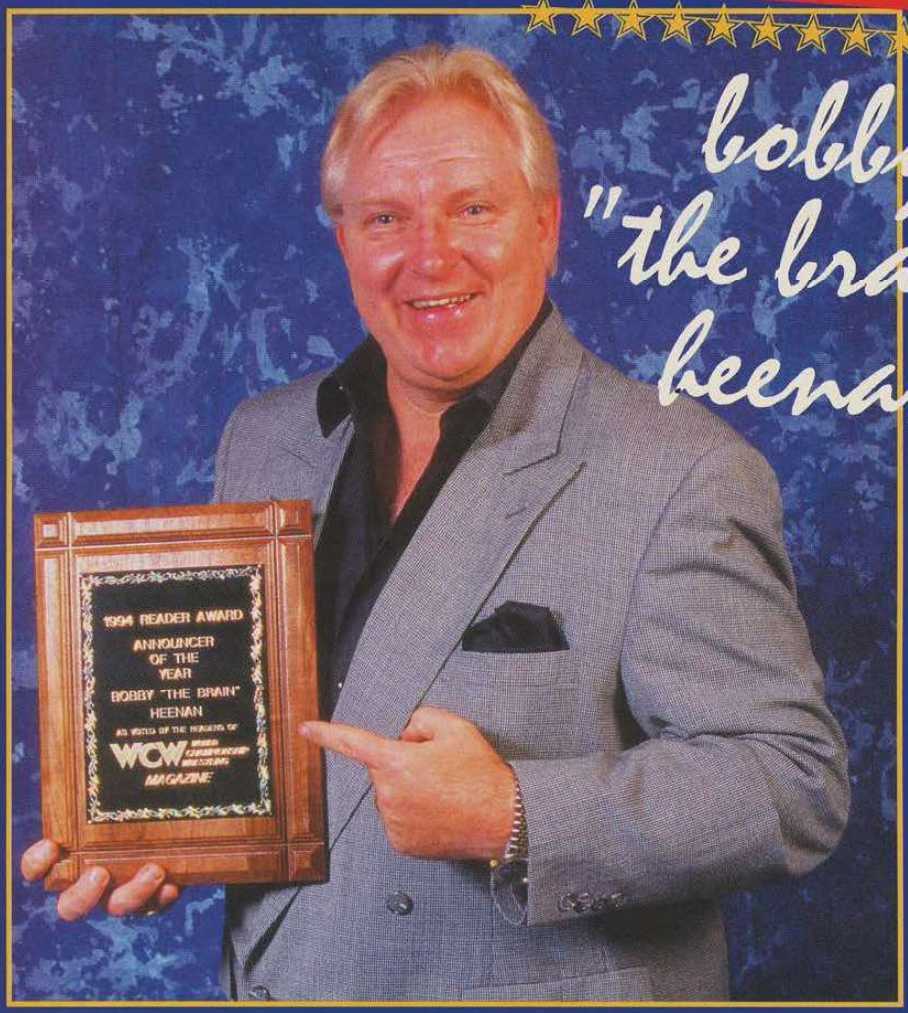
The year 1994 was full of transition and triumph for the most famous champion in the history of the sport, Hulk Hogan. Not only did he compete in World Championship Wrestling for the first time but he also became WCW World Champion by defeating Ric Flair. These factors made Hulk your overwhelming choice as Wrestler of the Year.

"I never dreamed that 1994 would be Hulk's best year yet,"* wrote Jeremy Billings of Marietta, Georgia. *"After all, the top competition is here in WCW. Hulk had to get past the 'Nature Boy' to win the World title. Then he had to overcome the betrayal by his best friend, The Butcher. I guess I should never second - guess the "Hulkster!" He seems to gain strength from fans like me. He's unbeatable with his millions of Hulkamaniacs behind him!"

Hogan was genuinely moved by this latest accolade bestowed upon him by his legion of supporters. On receiving this award Hulk told us, *"When I joined WCW, I was worried about how my Hulkamaniacs would respond...well I guess this is their way of telling me they're still behind me and as long as that's true I'm going to take Hulkamania to higher levels than its ever gone before."*

READERS AWARDS

ANNOUNCER OF THE YEAR



bobby "the brain" heenan

Love him or hate him, you just can't ignore Bobby "The Brain" Heenan. In his first full year in WCW, the brash and opinionated Heenan continued to be the most outlandish color commentator ever. It shocked some WCW insiders when it was learned that "The Brain" would be the fans' pick as Announcer of the Year. It came as no shock to Bobby!

"This is quite an honor. Too bad it's not made out of paper because if you're out of Charmin you could use this! I appreciate everyone who voted for me. Obviously, there are people out there with some intelligence. If they were really intelligent, they'd give me an Emmy, too!"

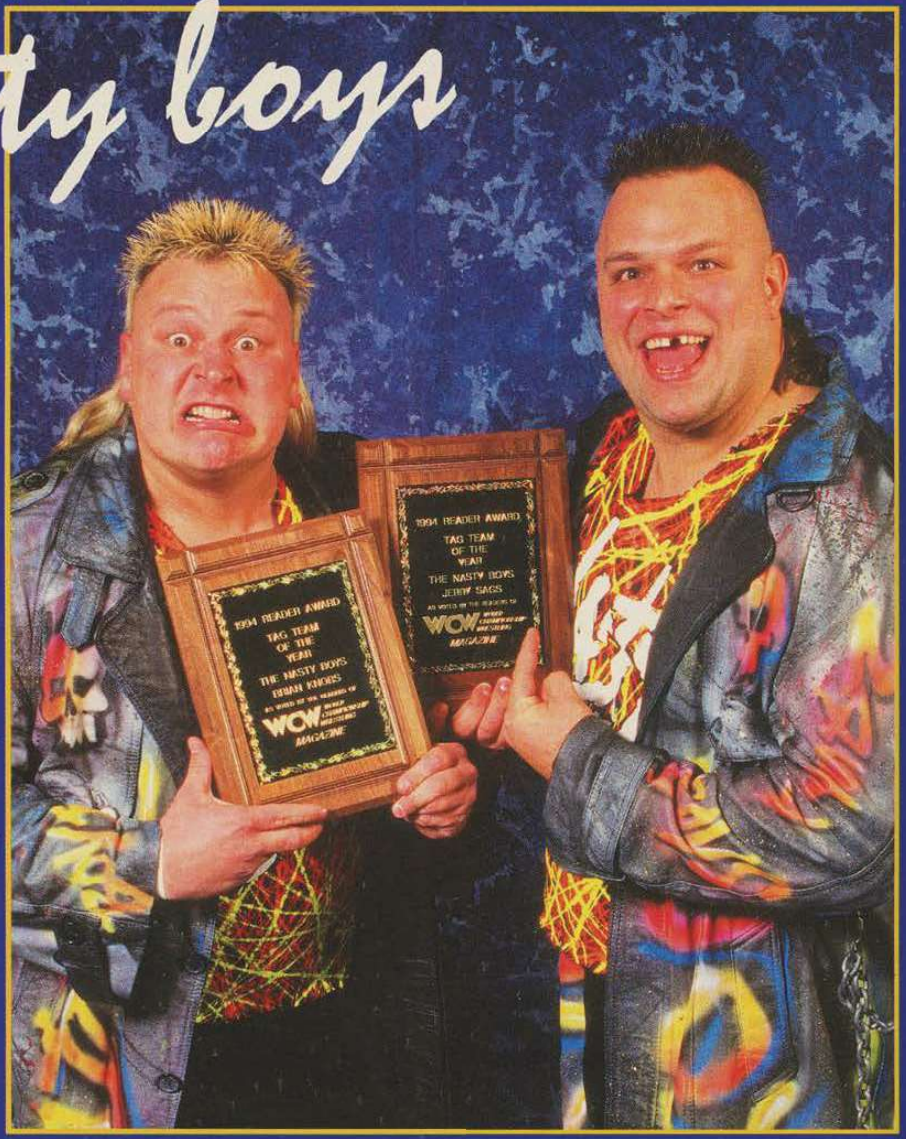
Judging from the fans' boos when he appears at WCW arenas, it's clear that Heenan isn't quite as popular as he'd lead you to believe. However, his obvious ring knowledge and entertaining style makes him virtually impossible to ignore.

"Where the "Brain" goes, excitement follows," wrote Janet Vermeil of London. *"Sure, he can run off at the mouth, but he breaks the big scoops. Who told us that Hulk Hogan was coming to WCW? Who lets us know about all the locker room scuttlebutt? Bobby's got his nose in everyone's business, but "The Brain's" got a nose for news!"*

the 1994

TAG TEAM OF THE YEAR

the nasty boys



They aren't nice; they're nasty. They're loud, boorish and brash. Their "Pity City" maneuver is clearly the smelliest "hold" ever devised. Yet, they kept right on winning and the fans loved it! The Nasty Boys took home the Tag Team of the Year award for 1994, despite a great year for Stars & Stripes, Harlem Heat and Pretty Wonderful.

"It was a great year for tag teams in WCW,"* wrote Bob Johnson of Oak Hill, New York. *"While several duos captured the WCW World Tag Team title, The Nasties kept right on winning even when they weren't the champs. Last year, something changed about them. They started listening to the fans. Suddenly, they were unstoppable."

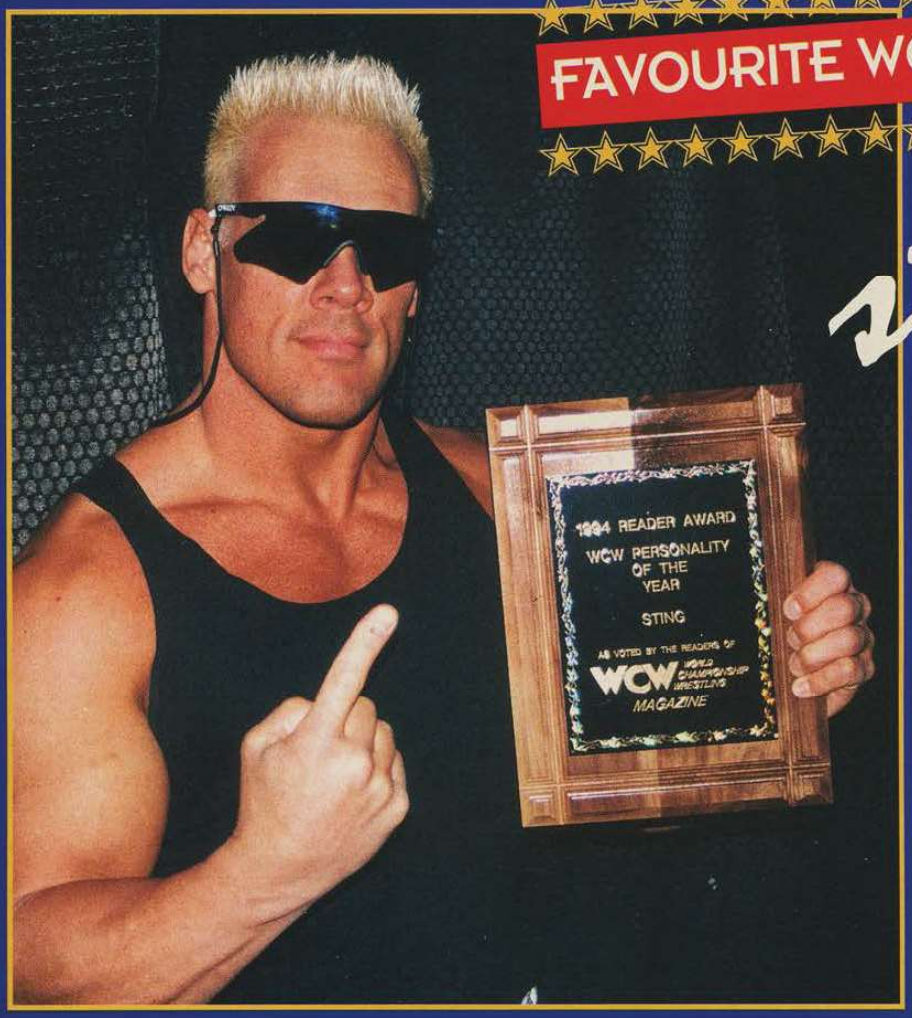
Knobs and Sags were typically boisterous when informed they'd been chosen as the Tag Team of the Year.

Knobs: *"What an award this is! We're proud to be the WCW Tag Team of the Year."*

Sags: *" Hey, Knobs, the people like what we're doing. They want to be Nasty and feel Nasty. This proves that Nasty sensation is what they wanna see!"*

READERS AWARDS

FAVOURITE WCW PERSONALITY



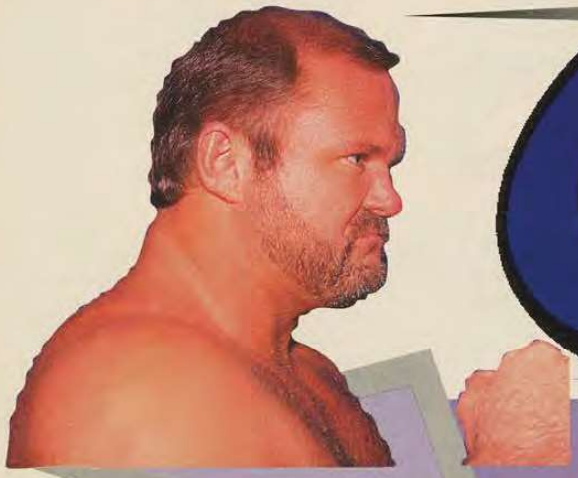
sting

OWWWWWWW!

That's the sound that has inspired millions of WCW fans to paint their faces and let loose with that now-familiar war whoop. It can only be the rallying cry of the man called Sting. The "Stinger" traveled the globe in 1994, garnering fan favor everywhere with his colorful style. His upbeat demeanor and never-say-die attitude made him the fans' choice as Favorite WCW Personality.

"Sting is what every person should be,"* wrote Thomas Ohlen of Toronto, Canada. *"No matter the competition, Sting always faces his challenges without fear. He greets his fans with a smile and a handshake, but he takes on his foes with stern determination. He's a real inspiration both in and out of the ring."

The fans are what matters most to the "Stinger," and his reaction to his award was one of sheer delight. He told us, *"It doesn't matter how many awards I win, I always appreciate each one. However this award is particularly special to me as it has been voted on by the greatest wrestling fans on the planet, all of you, the readers of WCW Magazine. Thanks."*



Collision

ARN ANDERSON

One is just 18 years old and hungry for success. Th wrestler. "Das Wunderkind" wants the WCW Wo around his waist. Here comes the u

Alex Wright's rise to stardom is unparalleled in WCW history. Some men attain such notoriety after spending years in the sport. How is it that "Das Wunderkind" has been able to beat veteran WCW wrestlers after just a few months as a pro in America? Even WCW World Television Champion Arn Anderson has to shake his head in awe at this unprecedented feat.

"He's one of the greatest talents to have come along in the past 25 years!" Anderson says with earnestness. "He's 18-years-old and he performs with the skill and expertise of a 30-year-old. He's got that fire, a real burning desire in his gut. He's beaten guys that I never dreamed he could beat in 1,000 years. I'm very impressed with him. The problem is that the proverbial curious cat sticks his head in the window fan to see what's on the other side. I don't have to say what comes next."

Anderson is bracing himself for an all-out assault from "Das Wunderkind," whom the WCW Championship Committee has deemed one of the top contenders for the Television title. However, as all WCW fans know, "The Enforcer" often speaks kindly of an opponent right before he tries to dismantle him. Remember the Dustin Rhodes affair. Already, Wright and Anderson have squared off in tag team competition, and the soft-spoken Wright isn't all that pleased with Anderson's tactics.

"The first time I faced Anderson, I never thought about the possibility of interference by men such as Col. Parker and Meng," said Wright, who granted WCW Magazine his first American interview for this article. "I was too naive. Now, my experience has shown me I have to watch my back. I will be prepared for Anderson next time. I know for him it's easy to win with a three-on-one. If he was an honorable professional wrestler, he'd go one-on-one like it should be."

No one ever said Anderson was honorable, but he is a winner. A veteran such as this canny rulebreaker doesn't appreciate it when someone he refers to as "just a young buck" comes into the organization he's dominated for more than a decade and tries to steal his thunder. Anderson lives to win titles, and the Television title, his fourth, means more to him than anything.

"I always call a spade a spade," said Anderson when informed that Wright was about to be granted a shot at the championship. "I don't think Hulk Hogan can beat me for my belt. There ain't a man on this planet who can take what I got and that's the World Television Championship. If that punk kid wants to try me, then he's gonna die 1,000 deaths, and you got that from "The Enforcer" Arn Anderson."

Anderson fails to mention the incredible skill and savvy that "Das Wunderkind" has displayed in his WCW battles. He's got lightning-like reflexes, fine aerial ability, and most important, he keeps cool when the going gets tough. He was able to prevail over Paul Roma at SuperBrawl V, despite the outside interference of "Mr. Wonderful" Paul Orndorff. However, when Anderson comes to the ring, he's accompanied by both his manager, Col. Parker and Parker's bodyguard, the infamous Meng.

"Col. Parker's backing me up one hundred percent," said Anderson proudly. "Everybody thought that when the Colonel purchased my services to step on Dustin Rhodes'

COURSE

VS. ALEX WRIGHT

other is perhaps WCW's most accomplished veteran ld Television title and "The Enforcer" has it firmly timate test of youth versus maturity!

neck, that he'd spent a lot of money to no avail. Now he's got the World TV Champion at his disposal. When you spend the kind of money he has spent to acquire an athlete such as myself, well, I'm gonna mow this kid down, end of story."

Not without a fight, he won't. Alex is smaller and lighter than Anderson, but "Das Wunderkind" has the advantage of having thousands of adoring fans supporting him. In addition, Wright has shown that he's thoroughly scouted Anderson. He claims he knew all about "Double A" long before he came to the United States.

"I really respect him because he's a great technical wrestler," said Wright of Anderson. "He has a vast wrestling knowledge. He's an aggressive wrestler who's very quick and very smart. He's got everything going for him. I respect him for what he's done during his career. However, I am young, I know that, but I want to have a great career, too. I always try my best and I am willing to learn. I'm getting better every time I step in the ring." Wright might be "better," but it won't be long before his name will be ranked among the best. Few fans expected this charismatic youngster, Germany's youngest pro wrestler, to beat a grizzled veteran such as Beautiful Bobby, but Alex did it. Even fewer gave him a chance against "Pretty" Paul Roma, who disliked Wright intensely, especially after Wright showed him up on WCW Saturday Night by stealing away a pretty female fan that Roma was trying to impress. However, SuperBrawl V was the greatest night of Alex' fledgling career as he pinned Roma to the delight of the sold-out Baltimore Arena.

However, Anderson knows all about sold-out supercards. He's been on them all! He knows the short-cut rulebreaking methods and all the greatest scientific holds. He's seen all the young stars come, but he's been around and been a champion long after they've gone. Anderson is smart enough to respect Wright, but too cunning to anger him with words. As always, Anderson does his best talking inside the squared circle.

"Alex Wright is inching his way

along in WCW," Anderson says. "He's a young kid who's got a good record and wants a title shot. So let him have one! Keep in mind, though, he's not trying on some fly-by-night. He's trying on "The Enforcer"."

One could forgive Alex for being a bit intimidated by a veteran of Anderson's status but Wright hasn't let any butterflies show. He's too busy training and preparing for his lifelong goal to come true.

"I want to win a title, the Television title," said Alex modestly. "It's my biggest dream. In such a short time to go so fast to the top is unbelievable. I always dreamed about coming to America and being a professional wrestler here. That's been my dream ever since I was a little kid. Now I see that I can win, so I want to be a champion. That's my real dream."

Arn Anderson is a veteran superstar who has turned many young wrestlers' dreams into nightmares. However, with the talent and skill of Alex Wright, it might be "The Enforcer" who'll be in for many a sleepless night!

TALKING POINT

WITH TONY SCHIAVONE

My (un)official tag team rankings

Everyone has vivid memories when it comes to wrestling, maybe of their first live event or their favorite wrestler winning a big match. In the years prior to becoming a wrestling commentator, I too was a big wrestling fan. I grew up in the 1970s watching stars like Wahoo McDaniel, Paul Jones, Dusty Rhodes and The Andersons.

Even though singles competition is the focus of this great sport, many of my fondest memories are of tag team competition. In fact, I like tag team action much better than singles matches. That's just me.

My first recollection of great tag team action is seeing a one night tournament for the World Tag Team title in Greensboro, back in 1978. The title had been stripped from the champs at the time –Ric Flair and Greg Valentine– and numerous teams from all over the world were vying for the coveted crown. Teams competing that night included The Andersons, The Briscos, Cyclone Negro & The Missouri Mauler, Wahoo McDaniel & Andre The Giant, Bobo Brazil & Rufus R. Jones, The Masked Superstar & Baron Von Raschke and the eventual winners Paul Jones and a rookie sensation, Ricky Steamboat.

As I remember the excitement of the night, with a sellout crowd and the best competitors from around the globe, I think about how tag team wrestling has changed over the course of time. Oh Boy, has it changed!

That tournament was during the days of regional wrestling promotions forming alliances and my only experience of knowledge was what I read in national magazines. Now, the wrestling promotions like WCW are international organizations, with cable television allowing us to see every tag team from around the world –on a weekly basis. Hence, there are no surprises; we know each team and they know each other.

So, I guess the burning question is...are the tag teams today better than the teams of yesteryear?
Yes AND no!

Years ago, the teams traveled more and thus wrestled more. The Andersons had more matches during their title reigns than Harlem Heat will ever have. Years ago, arena events were the backbone of the sport and they occurred frequently. Today, television is the backbone and thus teams wrestle less.

So, in many ways, today's tag teams are not what they used to be, especially when you consider the fact that they now have endless hours of videotape to scout opponents. Today's athletes also train hour upon hour in the gym, hence they are bigger, faster and stronger.With that in mind I thought I would size up the tag team situation here in WCW with the first-ever Tony Schiavone (Un)Official Rankings. (Please note the title is not taken into consideration, just strictly ability as I see it).

1. THE BLUE BLOODS

Yes, The Blue Bloods! This may surprise supporters of The Nasty Boys and Harlem Heat but no two men can top Earl Robert and Lord Steven for wrestling ability and, hey, that's what this sport is all about, right?

2. HARLEM HEAT

Maybe the most powerful combination ever and when you add in the fact that they are truly blood brothers, wow, that makes for an awesome duo. Sister Sherri is a plus to the mix as well, although I don't know if they can trust her or not.

3. THE NASTY BOYS

What can I say! What Brian Knobs and Jerry Sags lack in scientific skill, they make up for in toughness. Remember SuperBrawl V, back in February...they just don't know how to stay down. They keep getting up and up and up. That's why they are one of the top teams.

4. STARS & STRIPES

Any team that can win the World Tag Team Championship a short time after they have formed is worth being considered. A top team, Marcus Bagwell and The Patriot have seen good and bad times in WCW, but mostly good. A true combination of power and speed, this pair will certainly win the tag titles again and I feel it could be very soon.

5. THE STEINER BROTHERS

Most of you will think I'm crazy for ranking The Steiners as low as No.5 but, realize how long they have been out of WCW. Most of their wrestling has been in Japan and even though the competition over there is very tough, it keeps Rick and Scott out of the title hunt in WCW. Soon they may devote their time and abilities to the international schedule that WCW wrestlers keep but until then, this is about as high as I can rank them. I can write so much about The Steiners, but without talking about their power, I would be remiss. They are very similar to Harlem Heat: big, powerful and vicious. Boy, would that be a great match: Harlem Heat vs. The Steiners.

6. AVALANCHE & BIG BUBBA

No questioning the ability here but I can't place them any higher than 6 because of their continued efforts to end careers and terrorize opponents. They are truly two men who could be the champs, almost instantly, if they wanted. However, they would much rather torture than have a title reign, or so it seems.

7. PRETTY WONDERFUL

It is no surprise that the team of "Mr Wonderful" Paul Orndorff and Pretty Paul Roma were so successful during 1994. You have the perfect blend of strength, experience and skill. However they are something of an unknown quantity in 1995 as Orndorff has only recently returned to action after a knee injury and there is no telling how Roma's defeat at SuperBrawl will affect him. If they click back into their old routine they could once again be a force to contend with.

8. BUNKHOUSE BUCK & DIRTY DICK SLATER

Ability? No question. Tough? Sure. However as long as Colonel Robert Parker is in charge of this duo, forget it; they're going no higher than 8. Col. Parker simply wants these two as his henchmen. Forget about a championship run, Buck and Slater are nothing but hired thugs guided by Parker. The Colonel claims to be the "Greatest Promoter on the Face of the Planet" and maybe he is right...to a point. Parker has hurt some careers and I believe that to be the case with Buck and Slater.

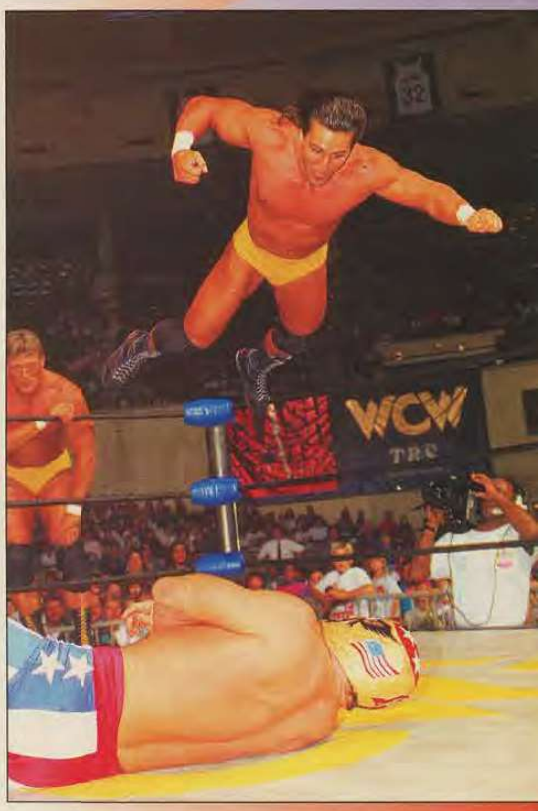
9. THE MONSTER MANIACS

It may seem incredible to put Hulk Hogan and "Macho Man" Randy Savage down this far but, let's face it, this is a team of survival. They are the two biggest stars in the sport and their primary focus is singles competition. They only team up when the need arises. It has been there in the past and I'm sure it'll be there again...very soon.

10. THE FANTASTICS

OK, they're at the bottom of my rankings as of press time but, with the success this veteran duo has had over the past few years, I honestly believe that by summertime they could just as easily be World Tag Team Champions. They are very quick and have plenty of determination, plus, they are also very skilled in aerial moves.

Tag team wrestling always will be exciting for me, much more than singles action. With the awesome teams in this list competing in WCW, the tag team ranks will remain red hot well into the summer.



Tony Schiavone is the co-host of the weekly TBS show WCW Saturday Night. He also supplies the play-by-play commentary on the WCW Clash and PPV broadcasts.

LOOKING BACK WITH GORDON SOLIE

THE STEINER BROTHERS

In the inaugural issue of the all-new WCW Magazine, I talked about The Road Warriors being one of the most influential teams of the modern era. In that column I also recalled Mark Lewin and Don Curtis, Ole and Gene Anderson and Eddie and Jerry Graham as being other truly noteworthy tag teams.

Add Rick and Scott Steiner to that list! This Michigan duo has accomplished so much, including winning the WCW World Tag Team title on three different occasions and simultaneously holding the World and United States tag belts in 1991. Being brothers, they stick together. No bickering and arguing over who's the leader of the team. All Rick and Scott care about is winning!

Before I look back at some of my favorite Steiner memories, here's a little trivia for you. Did you know that Rick Steiner competed in WCW before his younger brother, Scott, joined him? Rick was a solo competitor at first and then he formed a fine tag team with the recently deceased "Hot Stuff" Eddie Gilbert. For a short while Rick even teamed with Sting. However not long after that, Rick the "Dogfaced Gremlin," made an error when he joined the rulebreaking organization known as The Varsity Club, led by the infamous Kevin Sullivan. Isn't it amazing that Sullivan is still causing most of the trouble in WCW today?

Rick Steiner has always been an affable, upbeat kind of a guy. He didn't get along with the bossy Sullivan who as always, had his own best interests at heart. Rick got into a very heated feud with both Sullivan and the other member of the team, Mike Rotundo. Steiner and Rotundo even traded the World Television Championship back and forth between December 1988 and February 1989. Then for one very important match, Scott, who had previously competed in Tennessee and Japan, showed up at ringside to cheer on his brother. Shortly after that, Scott and Rick became a full-time tag team for the first time.

They made an immediate impact. Fine wrestlers on their own but when they got together they were pure dynamite. A lot of WCW fans compare them to The Road Warriors because both teams dominated wrestling for long periods in the 1980s. However, there were many real differences between these teams.

When the Warriors debuted, they were raw and unpolished brawlers. When the Steiners began teaming, they were already accomplished amateur grapplers from their days at Michigan and were skilled pros. Sure, all four men have incredible power but I think that's where the similarities end. The Warriors also had that flamboyant and colorful style which they used to intimidate opponents. The Steiners looked and acted like All-Americans and intimidated with sheer skill, not wanton brutality.

One of the Steiners' greatest moments took place at the final wrestling card in St. Louis' Kiel Auditorium when the fabled building hosted the Pat O'Connor Memorial Tag Team Tournament at Starrcade '90. The greatest tag-teams from around the globe were invited to compete for the prestigious trophy. However, it didn't matter who the opposition was that night. The Steiners swept the field and won one of the most grueling tag team tournaments in pro wrestling history by convincingly beating the Japanese team of Mr. Saito and The Great Muta.

The Steiners have three memorable maneuvers in their complex arsenal that are well known to their fans. Scott's spectacular "Frankensteiner," that incredible headscissors/suplex, is as amazing to watch as it is hard to describe. Rick Steiner throws a mean "Steinerline," the best lariat since the heyday of Stan Hansen. Their flying bulldog from the top turnbuckle is also a sight to behold and one of the deadliest finishing maneuvers in the sport.

As I mentioned earlier, Rick is a wacky, fun-loving guy but his enemies have often accused him of being a bit "soft." However this simply is not true! Both Rick and Scott are two of the most intelligent wrestlers around today. Scott could always express himself a bit better in front of a microphone but you can't be slow mentally and succeed at this game of human chess that we call pro wrestling.

Let me tell you, few teams have been as successful as the Steiners, and I am convinced that they've still got a very long way to go with their fine careers.

Gordon Solie, "The Dean of Professional Wrestling", is the co-host of the WCW Pro Wrestling program every Saturday morning on Superstation TBS.

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WCW ON YOUR LOCAL STATIONS (Check your area listings for times and availability)

WCW SATURDAY NIGHT
WRBW ORLANDO, KSBS STEAMBOAT SPRINGS
KJZZ SEATTLE

WCW WORLDWIDE
KOB ALBUQUERQUE, KFDA AMARILLO
WGNX ATLANTA, WFXG AUGUSTA
WBFF BALTIMORE, WLOX BILOXI/GULFPORT
WTTO BIRMINGHAM, WVVA BLUEFIELD
WTAT CHARLESTON,SC, WVAH CHARLESTON/
HUNTING, WFTV CHARLOTTE
WDSI CHATTANOOGA, WCIU CHICAGO
WUBA CLEVELAND, WOLO COLUMBIA
WRBL COLUMBUS, WWHO COLUMBUS
WTVA COLUMBUS/TUPELO, KXTX DALLAS/
FORT WORTH, KJMH DAVENPORT/R. ISLAND
WRGT DAYTON, KTVD DENVER, WDIV
DETROIT, WTVY DOTHAN, KJLF EL PASO
WJET ERIA, KEVU EUGENE, WBTW FLORENCE
WFFT FORT WAYNE, KAIL FRESNO/VISLIA
KPBI FT. SMITH, WGHP GREENSBORO/W.S.
WRMY GREENVILLE, WXVT GREENWOOD/
GREENVILLE, WHSV HARRISONBURG
WTWS HARTFORD/NEW HAVEN
WHLT HATTIESBURG/LAUREL
WYLR HUNTSVILLE, WJTV JACKSON
WMTU JACKSON, WNFT JACKSONVILLE
WWCP JOHNSTOWN/ALTOONA
KSMO KANSAS CITY, WKXT KNOXVILLE
KRLR LAS VEGAS, KASN LITTLE ROCK/PINE BLFF
KNBC LOS ANGELES, WFTE LOUISVILLE
KJTV LUBBOCK, WMGT MACON
WGOT MANCHESTER, WLMT MEMPHIS
WBFS MIAMI/FT LAUDERDALE
WEAR MOBILE PENSACOLA
WCOV MONTGOMERY, WXMT NASHVILLE
WGNO NEW ORLEANS, WCBS NEW YORK
WVEC NORFOLK, WKCF ORLANDO
WPHL PHILADELPHIA, WPTT PITTSBURGH
WPRI PROVIDENCE, WKFT RALEIGH/DURHAM
WTVR RICHMOND/PETERSBURG

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SUNDAY 6:05PM EST

WCW ON SPORTSOUTH
WCW PRO WRESTLING
WEDNESDAY 12:30AM

WCW ON PRIME
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Check with regional sports network in your area for specific dates & times

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KTBS SHREVEPORT,KDNL ST LOUIS,
WCTV TALLAHASSEE
WTVT TAMPA, WBAK TERRE HAUTE
KTFO TULSA, KCEN WACO/TEMPLE
WTOV WHEELING/STEUBENVILLE
KEBB YAKIMA

WCW PRO WRESTLING
WSST ALBANY, KLAX ALEXANDRIA, WNAL
BIRMINGHAM/ANNISTON, KYLE BRYAN/
WACO/TEMPLE, WCTP CHARLESTON
WCIV CHARLESTON, WFVT CHARLOTTE
WCIU CHICAGO, WWHO COLUMBUS
WCBI COLUMBUS TUPELO, KWGN DENVER
WGPR DETROIT, KJLF EL PASO
WFAY FAYETTEVILLE, WGSE FLORENCE
WFFT FT WAYNE, WHLT HATTIESBURG/
LAUREL, WYLE HUNTSVILLE/DEC/FLO
WNFT JACKSONVILLE, KMOH KINGMAN
WSVN MIAMI/FT LAUDERDALE, WVTV
MILWAUKEE, WGNT NORFOLK/PORTSMOUTH
KSAZ PHOENIX, KEBN PORTLAND
WYEDRALEIGH, WSLSROANOKE/LYNCHBURG
WTOC SAVANNAH, KTZZ SEATTLE/TACOMA
KDQ SPOKANE, KSGI ST GEORGE
WBSV TAMPA/ST PETE/SAR
WAQ WEST PALM BEACH

WCW MAIN EVENT
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TUSCALOOSA, KYLE BRYAN/WACO/TEMPLE
WAKC CLEVELAND/AKRON, WAAP
GREENSBORO/W.S., WNEG GREENVILLE/
ASHEVILLE, WYLE HUNTSVILLE/DEC/FLO
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CKCK REGINA, CFQC SASKATOON, CHBX
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MONCTON, CICI SUDBURY, CJCB SYDNEY/
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WINNEPEG, CICC YORKTON

WCW MAIN EVENT
CHMI PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE

LIVE EVENT CALENDAR

Check out our calendar below to find out when WCW will be coming to your area. Cities, arenas and dates are subject to change, so please check before you make your plans.

MAY

TV Tapings will take place on the following dates

May 4 Disney MGM, Orlando, FL
May 5 Disney MGM, Orlando, FL
May 6 Disney MGM, Orlando, FL
May 7 Disney MGM, Orlando, FL
May 8 Disney MGM, Orlando, FL
May 9 Disney MGM, Orlando, FL

SRN RADIO NETWORK

Below is a list of the radio stations who are carrying SRN's coverage of WCW's PPVs, Clashes and weekly WCW Worldwide program:

KCKB AM 1580 BLACKWELL,OK
WIQT AM 820 ELMIRA, NY
KFKQ FM 92.9 GREEN BAY,WI
WKBH AM 1570 LA CROSSE, WI
WTRP AM 620 LA GRANGE, GA
KMTW AM 1340 LAS VEGAS, NV
WGLB FM 100.1 MILWAUKEE, WI
WYOR AM 560 NASHVILLE, TN
KEUN AM 1490 NEW ORLEANS, LA
WRDB AM 1400 REEDSBURG, WI
WSSC AM 1340 SUMPTER, SC
WHEN AM 620 SYRACUSE, NY
KMZE FM 92.1 WOODWARD, OK

FACE THE FANS

Stunning Steve Austin measures success in titles – not fan support.

A cocky, self-centered athlete from Hollywood, CA, Austin is as talented as any in the squared circle but his cheap-shot approach seems to be the focus of his game plan. So far it's been very successful, as disheartening as that may be. He has held the TV, Tag and US Championships, but, until recently, had been sidelined with an injury he sustained late in 1994.

Now that he is back in the forefront of WCW he is insistent that 1995 will be THE year for Stunning Steve. In his first interview since that injury Steve answers questions from Joe DiToleo from Green Bay, WI. He will of course receive a signed Steve Austin photograph. If you would like to interview a WCW superstar, simply send your best dozen or so questions to us at the address listed below. We will select a winner and ask YOUR questions. Here are Mr. Austin's answers to Joe's questions.

What has been your greatest accomplishment in the ring to date?

"I guess I would have to say winning the US title from Dustin Rhodes (in December 1993), even though it was marred by a lot of controversy. When I had the belt, there were a lot of (other) guys who received (World Heavyweight) title shots, including some who didn't deserve them. Even though I was the No.1 contender, I was constantly overlooked. Vader won the US title, then slapped Hogan's face to help him get a title shot. Well, not a lot of people know this but I slapped Ric Flair's face when he was the World Champ and I've slapped other champs too. However I've never gotten a title shot! Soon, though, I will get those shots...they can't keep ignoring me."

You have feuded extensively in the past with Dustin Rhodes. Is he someone who, if circumstances changed, you would consider as a tag team partner?

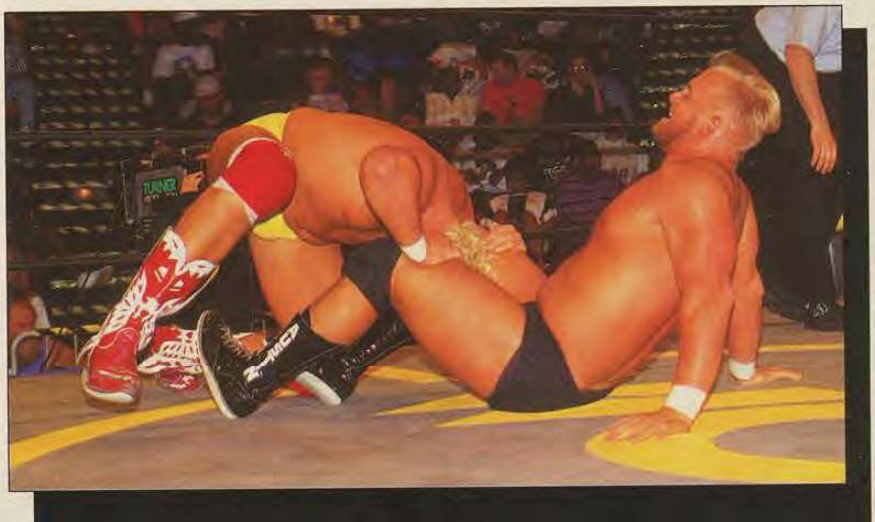
"Right now, I just want to concentrate on singles competition because I feel that's what I do best. If I ever did team with Dustin Rhodes, I'm quite confident we could become tag team champions. If I could carry Pillman to the title, then I could darn sure carry Rhodes as well. It would be the greatest moment of his career - just being in the same corner as me.

How do you think that The Stud Stable compares to The Dangerous Alliance? Why did you leave both organizations? Is it true that you were jealous when the respective managers did not devote all of their time to you?

"First off, I've never been jealous of anyone. I took Col. Parker in because he was supposed to cut through the bureaucratic red-tape when I was the US Champion, although that never ended up happening. I've got a lot of respect for The Stud Stable, although I feel they compare more favorably with The Four Horsemen than The Alliance. I just want to reiterate that I wasn't jealous of anyone or anything. I just wasn't satisfied with the job Parker was doing for me so I decided to go out on my own."

Do you regret that you never had the opportunity to beat Ric Flair for the World title and do you think the constant comparisons between you and him have harmed your career in any way?

"I don't think anything is going to harm my career, other than not being granted the title shots I deserve. As far as wrestling Ric Flair, yes, of course I would have beaten him, just like if I was to wrestle Hulk Hogan tomorrow, I'd beat him too. A lot of people have compared me to Flair but I don't know if that's fair. Ric Flair was in a position years back where he was always the main feature. Steve Austin has never been in that position due to all of the red-tape and politics. However, if the day comes when they do turn me loose, I'll erase everything Flair ever did from the WCW record book."



How do you spend your time away from the ring?

"If I'm not in the gym working out, I'm usually out fishing or hunting; for birds or deer. I'm a real outdoorsman and really enjoy it because it relaxes me from the pressures of life as a professional wrestler. I recently competed in the Buckmaster's Classic, an annual celebrity deer hunt held in Alabama, that also featured Rick Steiner, Quarterback Dave Krieg and singer Mark Chestnutt, among others."

Where did your nickname "Stunning" come from? It doesn't exactly strike fear into the heart, does it?

"Well, maybe other nicknames are designed to strike fear into the heart, but but not mine. I have never looked at it that way because if I feared someone because of their name I shouldn't be wrestling at all. I look at my name as just a state of mind."

The Hollywood Blonds are considered by many experts to have been the greatest WCW tag team ever. Is that how you think of them and how big a part did Flyin' Brian play in their success?

"I certainly would agree...we were the greatest tag team of all time, without a doubt. As far as what part did Brian play, well you've got to have two people wrestling together to be called a tag team. He was just the No.2 guy who was needed to form the team. As far as actually doing the job and getting our hands raised, firstly as champions and then day in/day out, that was Steve Austin's responsibility. I was the workhorse – albeit an extremely talented one – on the team. Brian was simply a 220-pound anchor that I dragged around for several months."

As I have just said, you are a very competent tag team wrestler. If you had a choice of any wrestler past or present who you could tag with, who would it be?

"Well for the record, I am a competent wrestler, end of story. Singles or tag team nobody compares to me. As for tag team partners, there aren't too many who are worthy. The few I would consider are "Mr Wonderful" Paul Orndorff, Ricky "The Dragon" Steamboat and Shane Douglas. I like Ricky's tenacity and his never quit attitude but he'd have to get away from that family-value approach. As for Flyin' Brian, I didn't mind carrying him so much that I wouldn't mind reforming the Blonds but he too would really have to change his attitude. He's a real Mama's boy now."

Who has proved to be your toughest adversary in singles competition?

"There are three, in no particular order: Flyin' Brian, Dustin Rhodes and Ricky "The Dragon" Steamboat."

What tactics would you employ in any attempt to beat Hulk Hogan. Do you think you would be successful?

"Going against Hogan would be a treat. I don't think it'd be a wrestling match; I think it would be a brawl. I don't think I could overpower him but I would take every cheap-shot I could and then I'd take it again. I think Hulk Hogan would be one of the toughest opponents of my career but there's no doubt, none whatsoever, that I can overcome him. One thing is certain, my shot at Hogan is going to come a lot sooner than people and him, for that matter, might think."

I heard that you were seriously injured recently. What is the full story?

"I sprained my left knee but it turned out to be not as serious as was first diagnosed. I rehabilitated for eight weeks, plotting my comeback to the upper echelons of WCW. My knee is now 110 percent and won't be any kind of a limiting factor in the Steve Austin arsenal. One other thing for the record. When I was out injured the TV announcers never mentioned my name once. Well, all that's done is made me more vicious and anxious to return and show all the people that tried to write me off how wrong they were."

Retirement probably is the furthest thing from your mind but after you are finished in the squared circle, would you consider management or announcing as a career?"

"Yeah, I guess I would. I'm not a guy that wants to hang around wrestling until I die. I'm just here to get the money – lots of it. Sure, I'm also here to win as many titles and matches as I can but the bottom line is the money, pure & simple."

Well that's all there is to it! Send your questions to:

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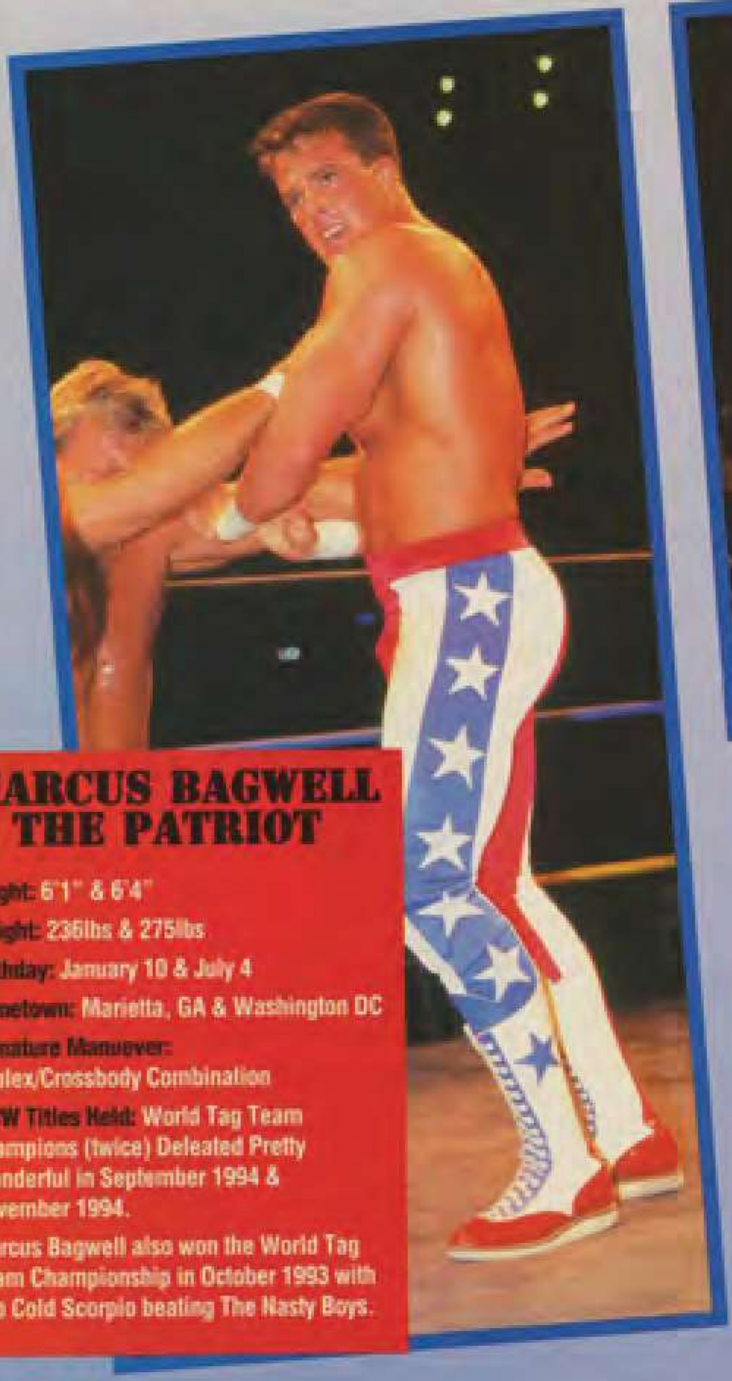
EXPERT STARS

ASSESSMENT

In this exclusive WCW Magazine feature, four of World Championship Wrestling's most knowledgeable personalities take an up-close-and-personal look at current WCW Superstars.
These aren't comments you'll hear at the arenas or on TV-these are the true beliefs of the biggest and most provocative mindsets in the sport today!



MARCUS BAGWELL & THE PATRIOT

Height: 6'1" & 6'4"

Weight: 236lbs & 275lbs

Birthday: January 10 & July 4

Hometown: Marietta, GA & Washington DC

Signature Maneuver: Suplex/Crossbody Combination

WCW Titles Held: World Tag Team Champions (twice) Defeated Pretty Wonderful in September 1994 & November 1994.

Marcus Bagwell also won the World Tag Team Championship in October 1993 with Too Cold Scorpio beating The Nasty Boys.

AND STRIPES

"Stars & Stripes? You want me to talk about *them*? It's hard to get very interested in a has-been team. Here was a team that held the World Tag Team Championship, but they got defeated by Harlem Heat. As far as I'm concerned, they've dropped a-way back behind my guys, Bunkhouse Buck and Dirty Dick Slater. Bagwell and The Patriot are gonna have to wait their turn before they get any more opportunities. Pretty American flags all over their bodies, well, that might look good on a pretty boy like Bagwell but now they're gonna have to get ahead the hard way. They're gonna have to beat my boys? Harlem Heat, too? No way!"

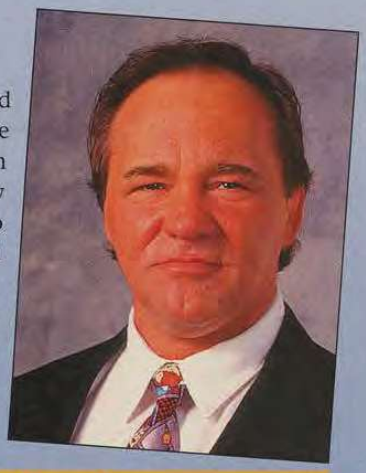
Colonel Robert Parker

Col. Robert Parker is the self-proclaimed greatest showman in the world. He has several top WCW wrestlers under his guidance, most notably the infamous Stud Stable.

"Hey, Bagwell and The Patriot are happenin'! Marcus is one of those young athletes that's trying to make his mark here in WCW. The Patriot is a good partner for him because he brings some maturity to the team. He's been around a bit longer than Bagwell. They've had their up and down moments. First they won the World Tag Team title, and unfortunately, they lost it under some bad circumstances. You know, these guys are good wrestlers. They both could be singles superstars if they wanted to. However, they're ready to step up another notch as a tag team if they get in there and show a little more toughness."

Dusty Rhodes

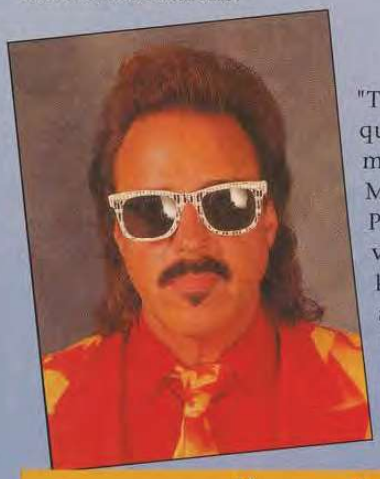
Dusty Rhodes, "The American Dream", is one of the most popular wrestlers of all time. During his incredible career he has managed to win the NWA World Heavyweight Championship on three different occasions.



"Stars and Stripes are good as a unit because they're very complimentary to each other. I think that's how they were already able to go all the way to the World Tag Team Championship. Bagwell's a kid who's got all that intensity and desire. The Patriot is a real ring general who has been up and down the road. Sure, they're a nice combination but they lost that title and so far they haven't been able to get it back. I think that's because their inexperience shows, and yes, that's Bagwell I'm talking about. Yeah, they're good, but if they're smart they'll give their team lot more time and maybe someday they'll be considered great."

Larry Zbyszko

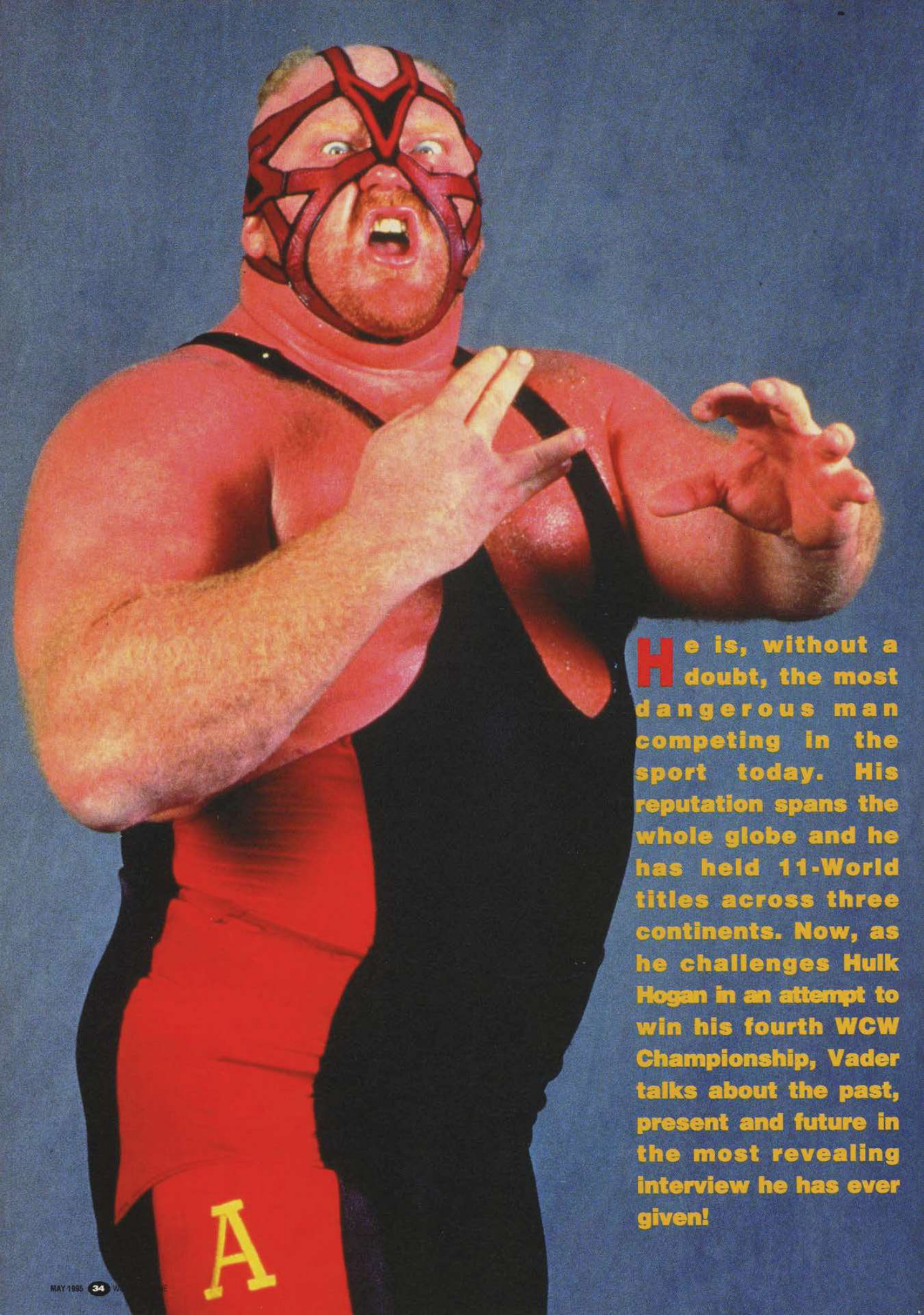
"Living Legend" Larry Zbyszko is regarded as one of the greatest wrestlers in history. He is currently the co-host of WCW Pro on Superstation TBS.



"These guys sure are quick and they have so many great moves. Marcus Bagwell and The Patriot are both still very youthful and that kind of enthusiasm always goes a long way. My true feeling on these guys is that they are a great team and their best years are surely ahead of them. Sometimes, though, I have to wonder if perhaps they should have a good manager. After all, they have to fight all the outside interference from some of these WCW managers, don't they? A manager could even help get them the title shots they need. You have to like a team like Stars & Stripes just as they are, though. They're two really cool guys!"

Jimmy Hart

Jimmy Hart is arguably the greatest manager in the history of the sport. Currently he manages the WCW World Heavyweight Champion Hulk Hogan.



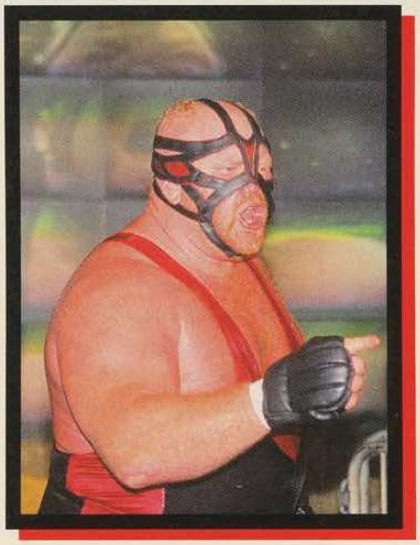
He is, without a doubt, the most dangerous man competing in the sport today. His reputation spans the whole globe and he has held 11-World titles across three continents. Now, as he challenges Hulk Hogan in an attempt to win his fourth WCW Championship, Vader talks about the past, present and future in the most revealing interview he has ever given!

IN THE HOTSEAT

VADER

Blame it on Randy White, the Pro Football Hall of Famer from the Dallas Cowboys! One year during his heyday with "America's Team," White played in a pre-season game against the Los Angeles Rams. He and an opponent were going at it down and dirty, as football players always do in the pre-season, particularly when jobs are on the line. His opponent fell awkwardly and did not get up, suffering from a career-ending injury. White's opponent that day was none other than the man now known as VADER.

"For all of the pain and agony I endured after that injury, the world of professional wrestling must now suffer. That's my driving force," said the volatile Vader. "It was a damn-shame my football career



ended, especially the way it did but as usual, I took adversity and turned it into a positive...with the result being a highly successful and unparalleled wrestling career. I've also ended lots of other guys' careers and that's something of which I'm very proud. Although I felt a sense of loss when my football career ended, I am fulfilled in wrestling."

Vader was a football player on the rise with the Rams, following an All-American career at the University of Colorado. "I was the first player in the history of college football to make All-Conference (in the Big Eight) at three different positions –center, guard and tackle– which I did as a senior. That's something that will eventually qualify me for a nomination into the College Football Hall of Fame and the Big Eight Hall of Fame." The way things are happening in the wrestling ring, Vader is also a lock one day for inclusion in WCW's Hall of Fame – if he doesn't trash it in the meantime.

Vader is, quite simply, out-of-control. He is a man on a mission driven by his desire for that fourth title. He is undeterred by punishment and continues to wreak havoc unabated throughout WCW.

"Vader is a lunatic," said Bobby Heenan, while his broadcast colleague Mean Gene Okerlund added " Vader is scary because you're dealing with a man who has no morals or scruples. He doesn't care what he does or to whom he does it. To put it mildly, he's a loose cannon."

Over the past six months WCW Commissioner Nick Bockwinkel has fined Vader three-times as much as any other competitor. Bockwinkel would not reveal the exact amount of Vader's fines but said, "The (fine) amounts are incredible but nothing stops –or even slows– Vader. He's like a bull in a china shop with the world as his china shop. Take SuperBrawl V for example. Vader walked over wrestlers and through windows –of limousines, no less– in his search for Hulk Hogan."

"I am fed up with the situation here in WCW," Vader barked with his eyes bulging and face sweating. "All I'm doing is going after what I feel is rightfully mine, what I earned in the ring, the Heavyweight Championship of the World," held at the present time by the Hulkster.

"...who exactly is running WCW... Nick Bockwinkel, Eric Bischoff or HULK HOGAN?"

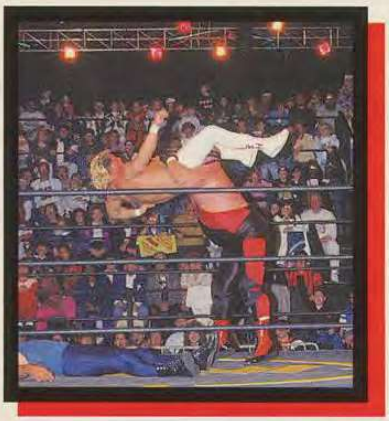
"Mr. Hogan, through his great influence on this organization, has been dodging me ever since I won the "triangle match" (last fall). That's why I want to know, who exactly is running WCW...Nick Bockwinkel, Eric Bischoff or HULK HOGAN?"

Vader said he "truly believed" Hogan was hiding in that limo outside the Baltimore Arena. He broke the glass in an effort to get his hands on the Hulkster and so bring SuperBrawl's main event forward to that afternoon. As for the fine, rumored to be $50,000, he simply shouted, "Who cares...I'll pay it with Championship money."

"I would have expected a lot more from the GREAT Hulk Hogan."

That statement, at this moment in time, seems to be a little premature. "I would have expected a lot more from the GREAT Hulk Hogan. Dating back to the time I stormed into his locker room during the post match celebration at Starrcade '94, he's shown me nothing," Vader said. "I know that I wouldn't have stood for someone running into my locker room in that way. I would have attacked that person there and then and torn them from limb to limb."

When it comes to locker rooms, Vader always has his own at every arena. With the exception of Harley Race and now recently Ric Flair, the only other wrestler who has visited Vader in his private quarters is Avalanche and he was only inside



for about three minutes.

"Hogan is hesitant and fearful of me and that will ultimately cost him dearly. He doesn't match up very well with me. Sure, Hogan is taller and more tanned than me but those attributes are only important if you are going to become a model. They are not traits that win matches, especially against me," Vader said. "There's no doubt that I'm bigger, stronger and probably just as quick as he is and my conditioning is as good if not better. The only thing Hogan has over me is the fan support and how does that win you matches?"

The 6-foot-5-inch, 450-pound Vader has proved he can withstand Hogan's full artillery, including the Atomic Legdrop. Vader kicked out of Hogan's ultimate finisher in Baltimore –a feat that has turned the wrestling world on it's head. All of the experts are now attempting to decide the outcome of the next clash of these giants, which was set to include a brutal strap match (Vader's choice) signed for the PPV event, Uncensored in Tupelo.

"The fear of God is in Hogan and that will be his undoing..."

"I don't hate Hogan...I just don't like him. He's like the kids I used to beat up for their lunch money," Vader mused. "It's just the fact he has something I want and I intend to get it. The fear of God is in Hogan and that will be his undoing, because as I've said before, Vader has no fear and feels no pain."

Now Vader has a new ally, 11-time World Champion "Nature Boy" Ric Flair. The two of them combined have held 24 different versions of World wrestling titles. This prompted us to ask Vader where this alliance left his relationship with his mentor Harley Race. We wished we hadn't asked! "MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS," he snapped, "or you'll find out what it's like to experience Vader-time! I'm only going to talk about Hogan and my tag team with Ric Flair. We are the greatest tag team ever. EVER!" Vader shouted still maddened by our earlier intrusion. "None come close to us and, with the combination of his technical expertise and my raw power, I don't see how any team possibly can."

Vader, with his legendary Power Bomb (widely regarded as the most devastating finisher in the sport) and the Vadersault in his arsenal, admitted "That if I have the chance to injure an opponent, that's what I will do first before I go for the win." It is this callous disregard for the rules and spirit of the sport that has led certain worldwide organizations to withdraw their sanction and prevent him from competing in their countries. "I will certainly put my career statistics up against anyone and you'll see that there's no one anywhere on this planet who comes close to Vader. The greatest wrestlers in the world are unquestionably right here in WCW. That's why I'm here and that's why I continue to stay here. The biggest prize in the sport is here as well...the scalp of Hulk Hogan. Soon he'll become just another statistic on Vader's march toward immortality."

As is customary for In The Hotseat interviews, we asked Vader to comment about some of the other stars competing in WCW. Typically he was blunt and straight to the point.

HULK HOGAN
"The luckiest man alive!"

JOHNNY B. BADD
"Too young, too inexperienced."

STUNNING STEVE AUSTIN
"A great ring technician."

THE NASTY BOYS
"Fierce competitors who have gone astray."

DUSTIN RHODES
"The heart and soul of a lion but he needs more time."

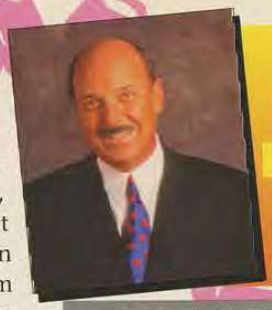
FLYIN' BRIAN PILLMAN
"The David of David and Goliath."

HARLEM HEAT
"Big, bad and tough."

COL. ROBERT PARKER
"He's a monster man. WCW will soon discover his true greatness."

BUNKHOUSE BUCK
"Needs a new hairstyle."

RIC FLAIR
"The greatest World Champion of all time."



HotLiNe

MEAN GENE OKERLUND

I really appreciate the opportunity to relax from the pressures of broadcasting by writing this column. At the moment my mind keeps slipping back to the last WCW PPV, SuperBrawl V. The first thing that comes to mind was the crowd in Baltimore...a sell-out, standing room only crowd. It's been a long time since wrestling fervor was at such a high and, of course, it only happens in WCW. The main thing I will never forget about Baltimore is Vader. This man, and I use the term loosely, was out of control. Vader is scary because you're dealing with a man who doesn't have a full deck – by his own admission. He's a highly volatile, loose cannon, to put it mildly.

Buck lost his shirt to the Colonel playing cards

There aren't too many times behind the microphone that I'm actually fearful of my own safety, except when I'm dealing with Mr. Vader. I can talk about lawyers all I want but when you're sitting in a hospital bed with your right leg raised four feet in the air, with a broken hip, with broken arms and you're wearing a neck brace...well, that lawyer is pretty useless then, isn't he?

Vader is just a monster...an animal...a bonafide lunatic. He's got tremendous God-given talent and size but is totally out of control. No normal person would do what he does, particularly smashing limousine windows with his bare hands.

His antics in Baltimore, mind you, did not go unnoticed by the higher-ups in WCW. I've heard, from two very reliable sources, that Vader was called in for a closed-door meeting the day after SuperBrawl V. My sources tell me that WCW President Bill Shaw, Executive Vice President Bob Dhue and Senior Vice President Eric Bischoff were present at that time. While a transcript of that four-hour meeting will never be made public, I've been told that several words/phrases overheard were; "probation," "suspension," "termination," "apology," and believe it or not – "way to go." Keep in mind I don't know the exact context these words/phrases were used, or the decisions taken at the meeting, but stay tuned... I'll keep my newshound nose to this one.

It hasn't been mentioned anywhere else but Vader's sidekick and mentor was recently seriously injured in a car accident, however, I am sure he will still be influencing every decision made by this behemoth.

Everybody is talking about the Vader-Ric Flair alliance and I also feel they are an awesome duo. However, you've got to remember that just because you put two great singles wrestlers together on a tag team it doesn't guarantee success. How many tag team titles have "The Monster Maniacs" ever won? I can only ponder as to how Flair and Vader would fare against more specialized teams like Stars & Stripes and The Nasty Boys?

Arn Anderson is a guy who truly knows–and has mastered–every dirty trick in the book. He's just naturally talented. His physical ware coupled with his intellectual shrewdness makes for a lethal combination.

I've seen the future of professional wrestling and his name is Meng... unbelievable!

As I've said before the Colonel loves to play cards and he usually wins big bucks, even from the members of his own Stud Stable. I've heard that Bunkhouse Buck is simply working for Parker these days to pay back his debts.

Alex Wright has been taking tons of abuse from my associate and so-called broadcast-journalist, Bobby Heenan. However, Wright has risen above it and has proved himself to be one of the most impressive wrestlers competing at the moment. I still think he has a way to go in his maturation process but that will come with more matches under his belt. Outside of the ring he is the most humble person you could ever meet.

Brian Pillman is back and looking awesome. Obviously, California did wonders for him.

"The Nature Boy" Ric Flair has also returned and he looks awesome as well. I guess Ric made a promise he couldn't keep when he said he'd leave the sport forever.

One person I certainly wish would leave WCW is Bobby Heenan. The guy is a pain in the butt and all of his "information" is only gossip and speculation. One thing I'll say about Heenan is that he's recently had several "meetings" with Sister Sherri. Speaking of "The Brain" and I don't too often, he and I have parts in an upcoming futuristic movie Time Masters, starring Pat Morita. You should have seen Bobby on the set. He thought he was Arnold Schwarzenegger, Sylvester Stallone and Steven Seagal all wrapped in one. He also thought he should have a dressing room which equaled the combined size of all of these stars. My apologies to the cast and crew that had to deal with him.

Call me soon on the WCW Hotline until I see you next month.

Meng–the future of wrestling

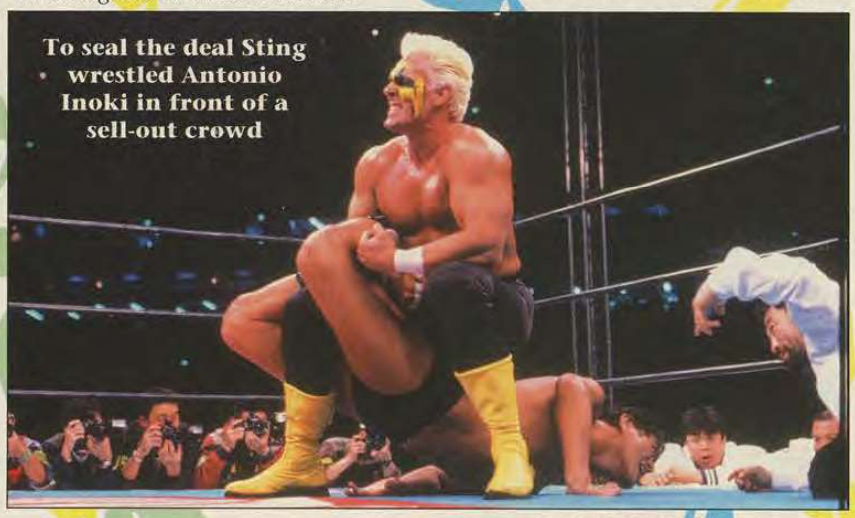
Mean Gene Okerlund is the co-host of the weekly WCW Main Event program on Superstation TBS. You can also hear him every Saturday on the WCW Hotline.

BUZZ

MIKE TENAY

In the late 1980's when Ted Turner purchased the controlling interest in the NWA from Jim Crockett Promotions, the TBS-owned company revised its name to World Championship Wrestling. It also expanded its horizons to equate its new name.

The organization already had ties around the wrestling world but the vast majority of the cards it presented were limited to North America in general, and the Southern states specifically. Several years after the Turner takeover WCW can now legitimately lay claim to being a truly worldwide wrestling league. In addition to expanding its arena events to the European continent, WCW under the leadership of Senior Vice President Eric Bischoff has forged working relationships with two of the other most popular and successful international promotions; Tokyo-based New Japan Pro Wrestling and AAA from Mexico.



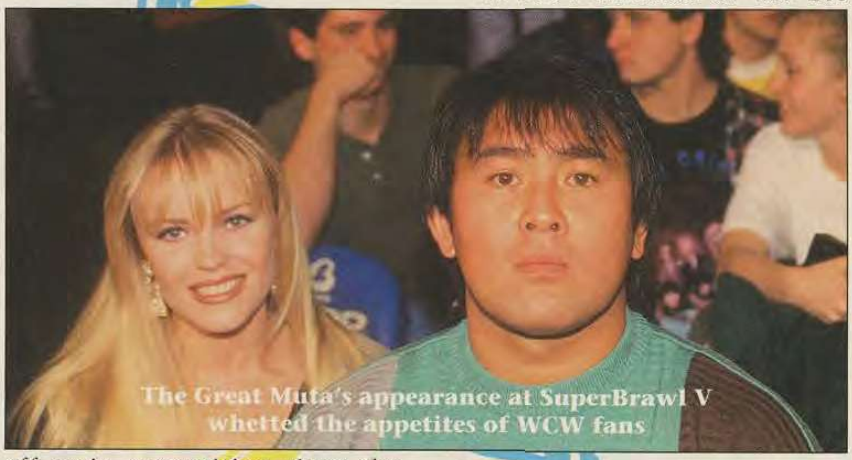
To seal the deal Sting wrestled Antonio Inoki in front of a sell-out crowd

These cooperative agreements will allow a unique talent exchange among the federations and provide wrestling fans an opportunity to see many of the stars they've only read about in the past. It will also provide direct competition among the finest athletes from each organization.

WCW's deal with New Japan has seemingly been an on-again, off-again proposition since the classic series of matches between Flyin' Brian Pillman and Jushin "Thunder" Liger in 1991. Those bouts stole the show during several cards and evolved into a pair of WCW/New Japan mega–Tokyo Dome events that were broadcast to pay-per-view audiences throughout the U.S.

Also, who could ever forget the classic bouts that took place between former WCW World Champion Ric Flair and Tatsumi Fujinami, as well as Masa Chono versus Rick Rude? When fans clamored for more of this kind of international action, Bischoff and the WCW officials went to work to ensure their fans would indeed see more great, action-packed internationally flavored bouts.

Early 1995 brought a heightened sense of interest in the WCW/New Japan agreement spurred by Bischoff's appearance at the Tokyo Dome to announce the renewal of the deal. The seal on the new agreement that night was the appearance of WCW superstar Sting as he faced Japanese legend Antonio Inoki in front of more than 60,000 fans.



The Great Muta's appearance at SuperBrawl V whetted the appetites of WCW fans

A 1994 invasion of the Los Angeles Sports Arena by the Mexico City-based AAA promotion that drew a sell-out crowd of 16,000 caused wrestling promoters around the world to drop their jaws. With pay-per-view still in its infancy stage south of the border, AAA joined forces with Turner Home Entertainment last November to present "When Worlds Collide" on PPV throughout the United States. The result was a critically acclaimed program that not only gauged interest in the Lucha Libre-style product here in this country but also introduced the AAA stars to a new and vast audience. AAA features veteran stars such as Konnan, Perro Aguayo and many outstanding tag teams.

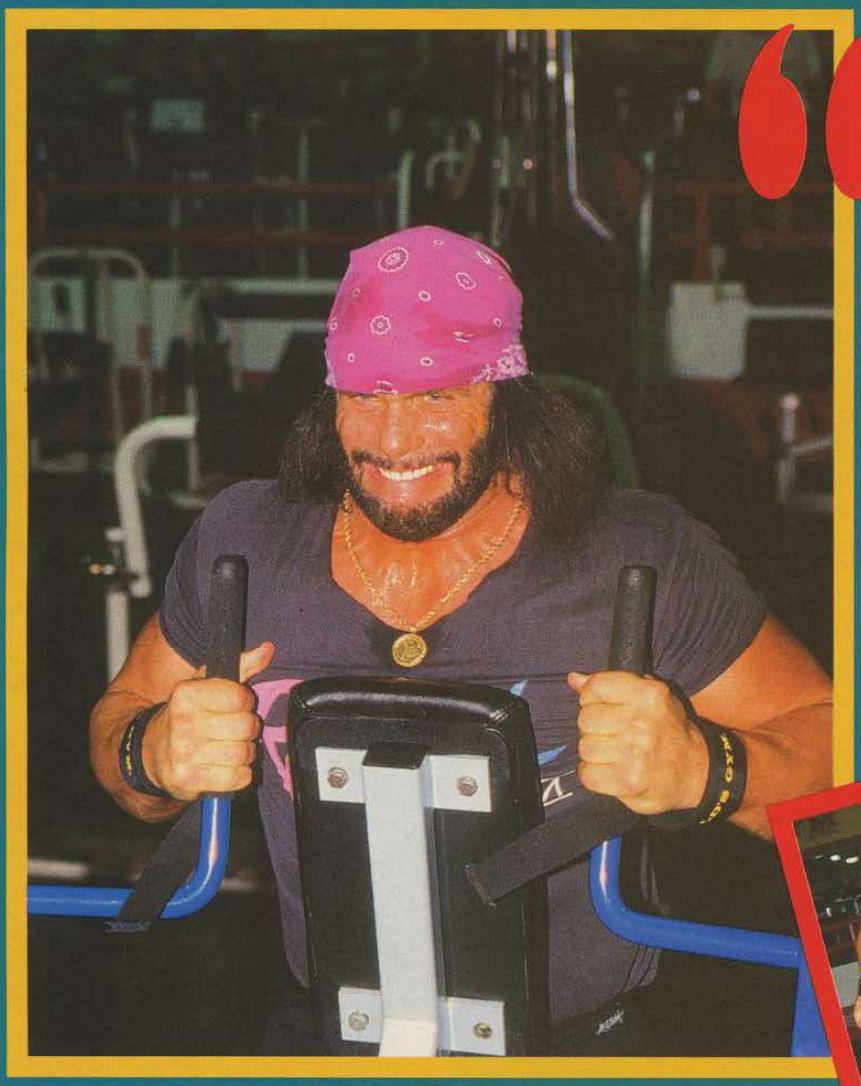
The Great Muta's appearance at SuperBrawl whetted the appetites of WCW fans, who were intrigued from the beginning by Bischoff's trek to Japan. Would Muta, a great Japanese star who WCW fans know well, soon be competing here once again? Anything is possible with WCW's new international agreements, it seems certain that the great athletes from all over the globe will soon be gaining popularity in this country.

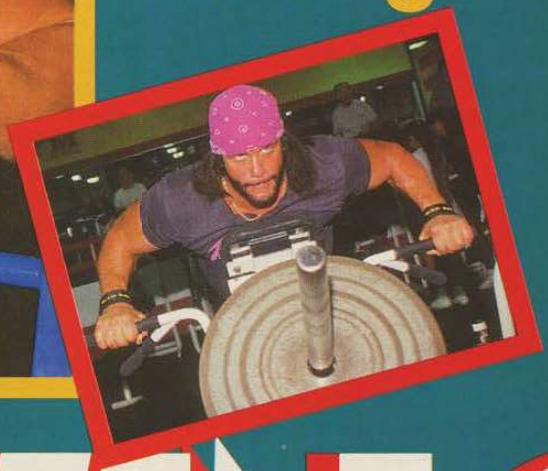
It also seems a safe bet that WCW will be continue to be acknowledged as the world leader in pro wrestling.

Mike Tenay hosts the WCW Hotline updates every Monday and Thursday.

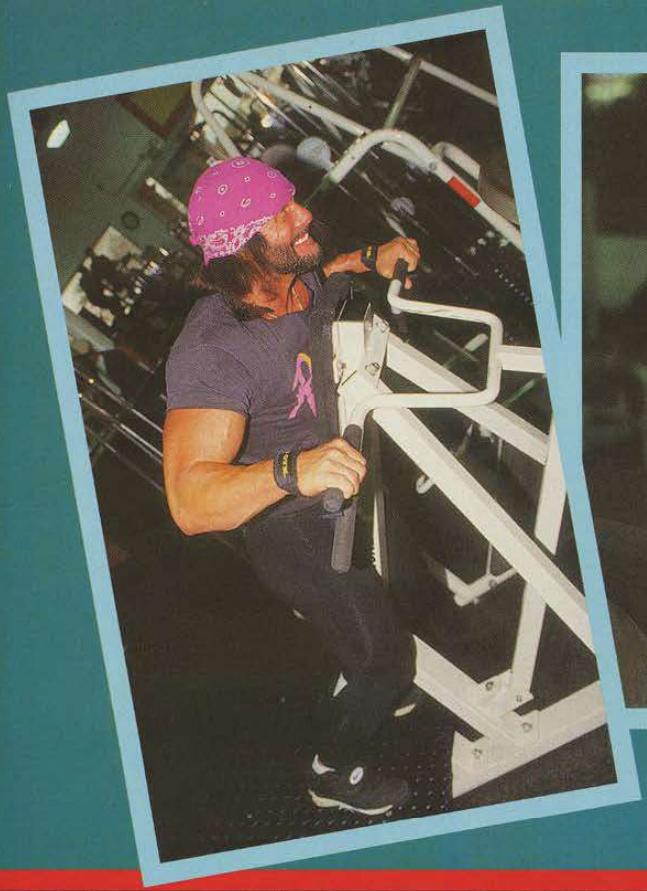
OUT & ABOUT

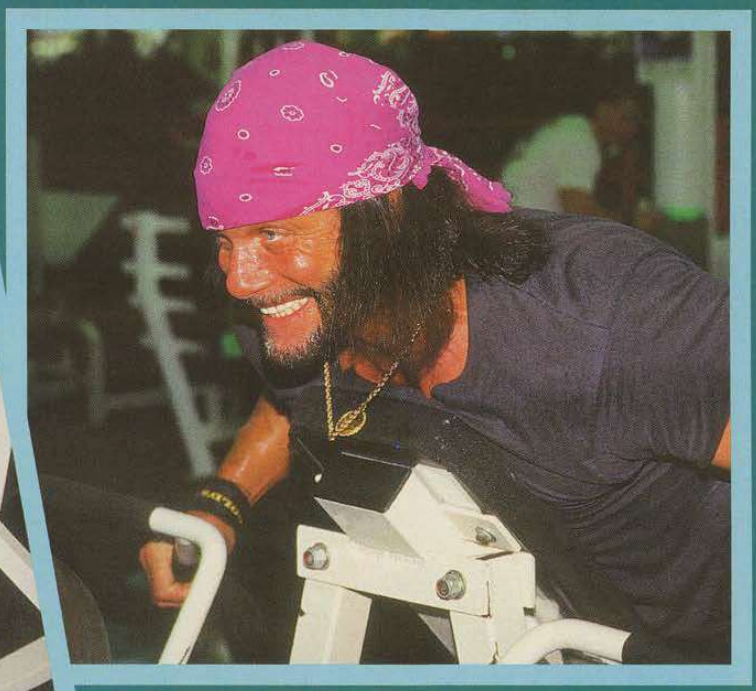
Working out with "Macho Man" Randy Savage

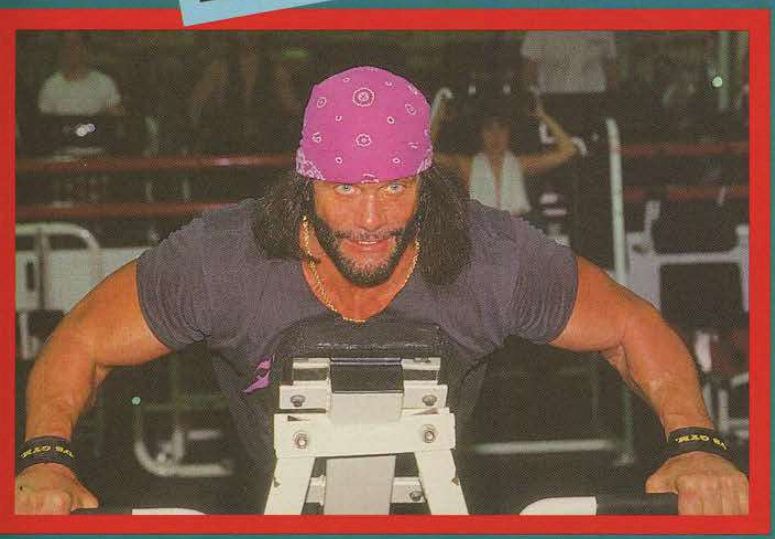




STAYING





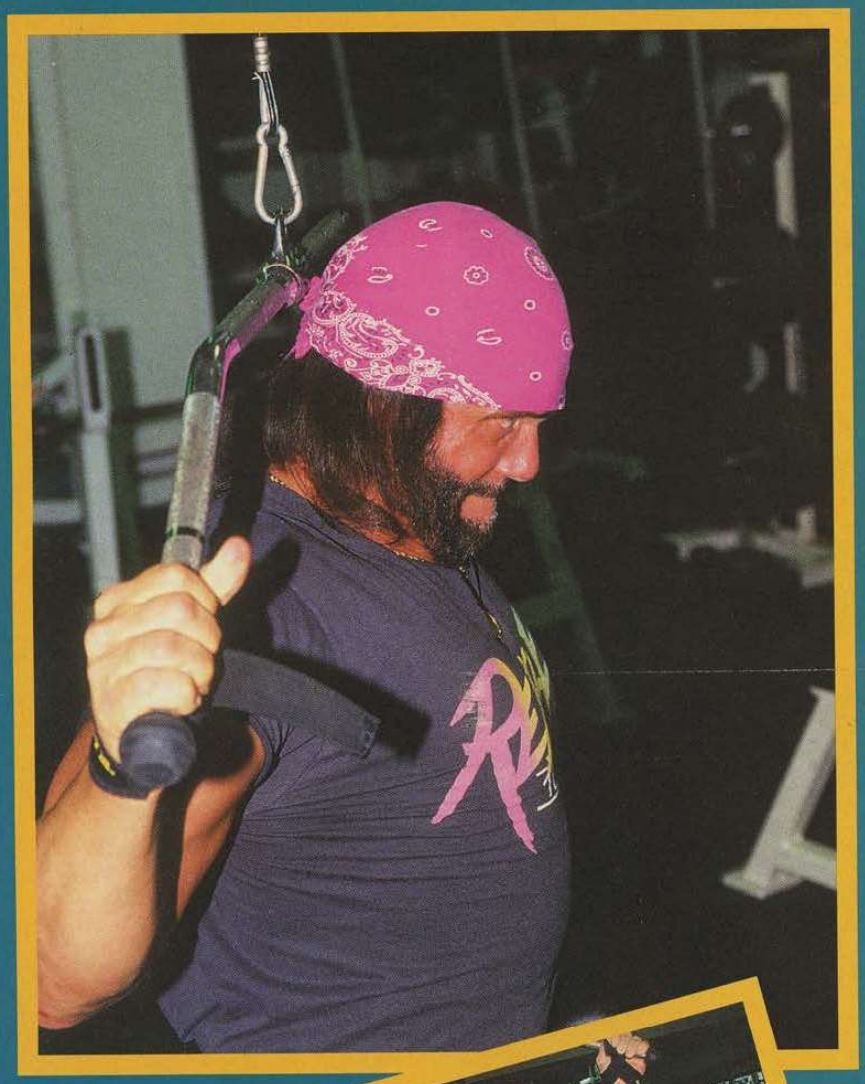


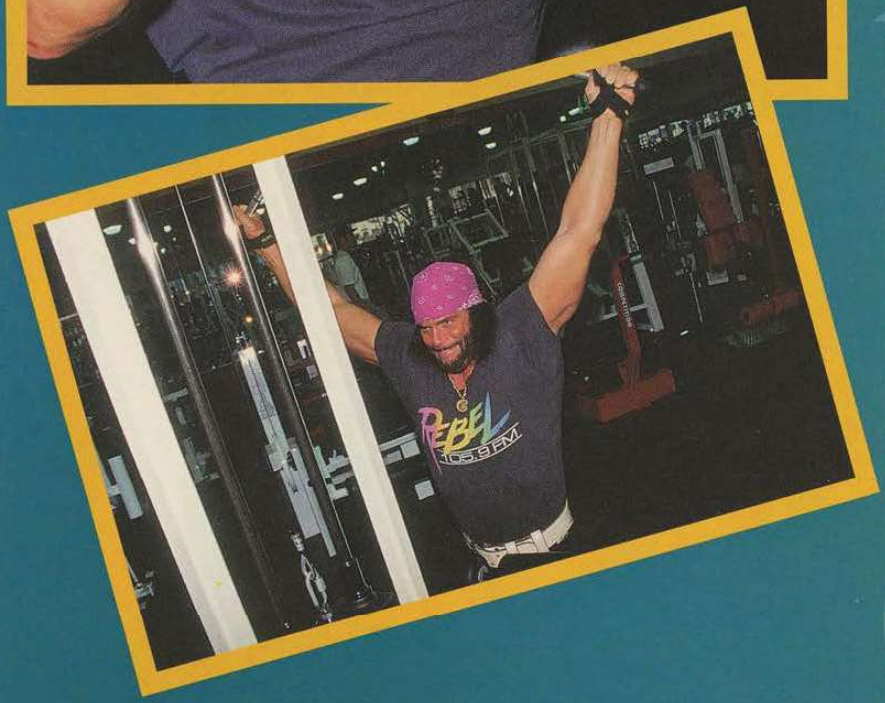
In a matter of just a few months, "Macho Man" Randy Savage has not only leaped to the top of the WCW ratings, but he's become an even bigger star than ever before. How has this legend been able to make such a comeback?

"Health and conditioning keeps me Macho!" said the 6'1", 245-pound legend as he invited WCW Magazine to check out one of his grueling workout sessions.

MACHO

OUT & ABOUT

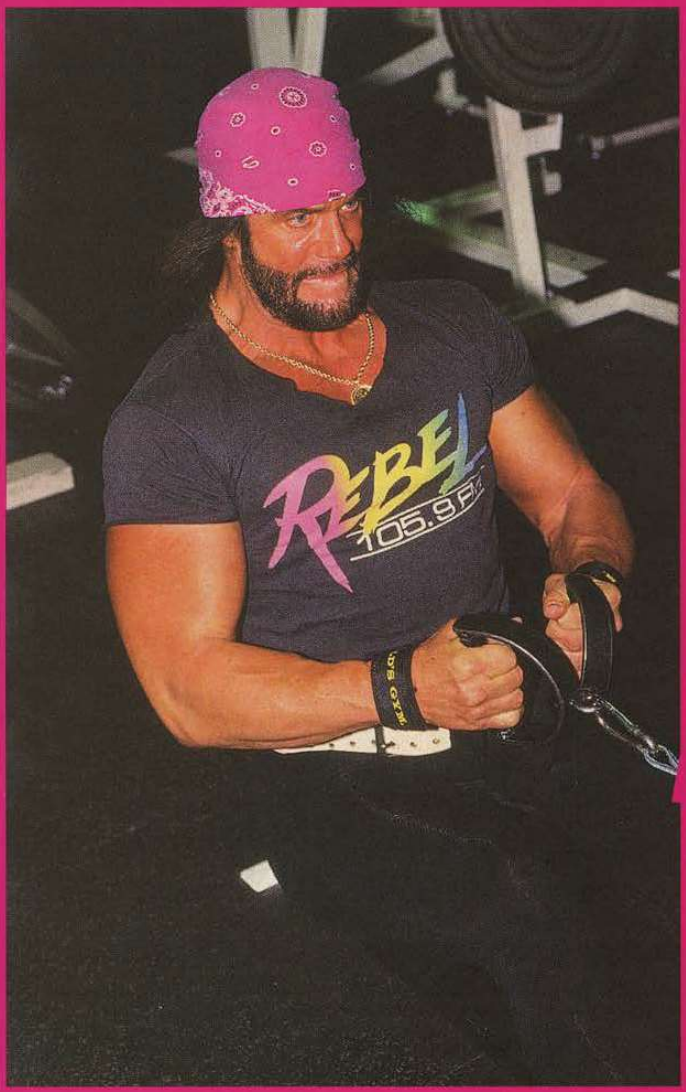


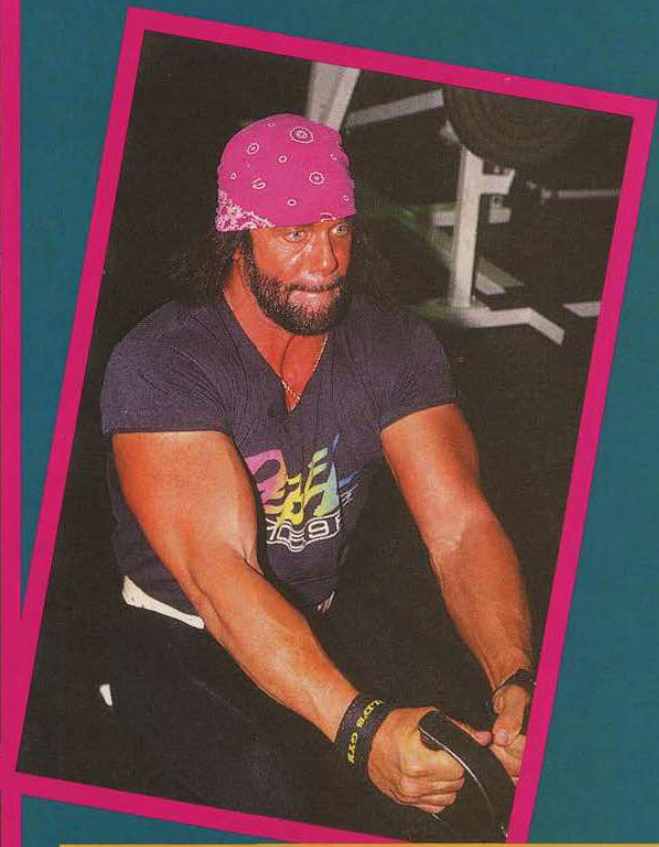


"My big thing is being in top physical condition at all times. I keep a high intensity level anyway and when I get into the ring, I get psyched up to the max...probably better than anyone ever. At the same time, the way I am, I wrestle every bout like it's the last second of my life. I make it quality instead of quantity. I do high-risk maneuvers. That's my style. In order to wrestle "Macho Man" Randy Savage, they have to come at me 1,000 miles an hour because that's the way I'm coming after them. Any other plan's not going to work because I work out to ensure success!"

There are very few athletes in any sport who come close to the dedication and perseverance shown by Savage. Before Savage returned to wrestling to help Hulk Hogan subdue The Three Faces Of Fear, he admitted that he had lost his competitive fire. Seeing all the action and titles to be won in WCW helped him get "the fire in my heart" blazing anew.

"Before, I was just doing some announcing so I went into cruise control," said Savage. "Now, I'm ready. I'm letting the whole world know this: Whatever you previously saw from the "Macho Man" that you liked, that you were surprised about, that put everybody in a state of shock, that's nothing in comparison to what you'll see in the future. I haven't come to WCW to take a step backward. I'm coming in to take 40,000 steps forward. Everybody fasten your seat belts when you see Randy Savage in the ring because it's going to be a bumpy, bumpy ride and only the strong will survive. I'm the leader of the strong so you all climb on the bandwagon. The excitement is back, and I'm going all the way to the end – and that means the WCW World title. I want that belt no matter who's wearing it, friend or foe."





STAYING MACHO

Those are strong words, but they're coming from a strong, physically superior man. Our staffers stood in awe as Savage took part in virtually every kind of conditioning during his workout: Weightlifting, cardiovascular exercises, running and agility drills. "Nobody can hang with me in conditioning," Savage says proudly. That's probably why very few men can hang with him in the ring. Even WCW's biggest stars have a big problem with Savage!

"Big men? Not a problem!" Savage says with a smile. "Say I gain 20 to 40 more pounds. I'd still be 270 pounds less than Avalanche! Size isn't as important as many folks think. Quickness, conditioning, speed, intensity, high risk maneuvers, craziness, psyched to the max, living on the edge: Those are my attributes. Working out as well and as smart as I can keeps me ready for anything that WCW can dish out for me."

Even if you're not a wrestler, Savage wants his fans to know that getting into shape and staying that way can make a winner of anyone and make you a champion in the game of life.

"You've got to work out for the health benefits, first and foremost," says Savage. "The quality of life is unbelievable. Being in shape is your best insurance against getting hurt. You've got a better chance of staying healthy if you're in shape. You've got a better chance of recuperating from an injury if you're already in shape. You gotta be in shape!"

TAG Talk

In the USA or Canada, write to:
Tag Talk, WCW Magazine, One CNN Center, Box No.105366, Atlanta, GA30348-5366

In the UK or Ireland, write to:
Tag Talk, WCW Magazine, 5A Brighton House, 9 Brighton Terrace, London SW9 8DJ

or send your comments to us via E-Mail.Our address is **WCWMAG@cix.compulink.co.uk**

COME TO NEW YORK

I am writing to say what a fine job you have done with the resurrected WCW Magazine. I was getting sick and tired of reading about some new generation in other publications. I would like to make a request to the higher ups in WCW...please come to New York City. I want to see Randy Savage, Hulk Hogan and Sting and real new generation wrestlers like Flyin' Brian. I don't want to see tired old promotions featuring clowns, garbage men, midgets and old has-beens. If you can't come to the Garden, then how about the Meadowlands in New Jersey? I hope you can respond to this request urgently.

Michael Bellino, BITNET

Question time

I've only been a WCW fan since May 1992. I think that Sting, The Nasty Boys, Hulk Hogan and Dustin Rhodes are excellent. Could you please answer my questions?

1. I have the video from a show called Capital Combat '90. Were there any other Capital Combat PPVs?
2. What year was Clash of the Champions I and what was the main event?
3. What was the main event of the Japanese supershow, Rumble in the Rising Sun?
Thank you in advance for your help.

Stephen Parry, Birmingham.

1. *No, there was only one Capital Combat.*
2. *Sting vs. Ric Flair in 1988*
3. *Ric Flair vs. Tatsumi Fujinami*

My top 5 matches

I am writing to let you know what my top five matches in NWA/WCW history are:
5- Ricky Steamboat vs. Ric Flair Wrestle War '89
4- Ronnie Garvin vs. Ric Flair Starrcade '87
3- Magnum T.A. vs. Tully Blanchard Starrcade '85
2- Ricky Steamboat vs. Ric Flair Clash of the Champions, April '89
1- Sting vs. Ric Flair
Clash of the Champions I, '88
May I also say how much I enjoy the work of Tony Schiavone, he is a broadcaster extraordinaire.

Bill Knight, PRODIGY

GO TO IT KEVIN

I am writing to congratulate Kevin Sullivan for being the only wrestler with the strength of conviction to attempt to drive Hogan from the sport. I wish him every success with the task! Hogan is nothing but a backstabber and anyone who believes differently should just look at the way he treated his lifelong friend Butcher. It's no wonder the man rebelled, anyone would have. I hope Kevin and his aides succeed

sooner rather than later and send the Pukester on a one way trip back to Hollywood.

Tracey O'Sullivan, Avon

Pen pals

I am a 16-year-old wrestling fan in the UK who hates Hulk Hogan but loves WCW. I am looking for some pen pals so can you please print my full address so other WCW fans can write to me?

Paul Whiteside, 18 Dronsfield Rd, Fleetwood, Lancashire, FY7 7BW

The new era

I would just like to wish everyone at WCW all the best for the future. The new magazine is a fitting publication for the best wrestling organization in the world. I would also like to wish all the wrestlers a very successful career, especially Sting.

G. Armitage, Kirkby, Merseyside

DON'T FORGET THE UK

For many years I have been able to enjoy WCW telecasts on my local TV Station in the UK. However recently it has stopped being broadcast. Can you tell me if it will return or will appear on satellite anytime soon.

N Chadwick, Bristol

When will WCW be returning on tour to the UK

E Neck, Pontypridd

I noticed in issue 1 that WCW are still releasing videos of their PPVs in the US. Are there any plans for WCW to start releasing their shows from 1994 in the UK.

A Dalton, Southend-on-Sea

First things first. WCW is still broadcast on certain ITV regions in the UK. However TV programmers are always changing their schedules and in doing so certain shows may not be available for short periods of time. So it is always worth checking your listings for upcoming WCW programs. If you do have a Satellite, may I just remind you that DSF (the German channel) shows WCW programming weekly and includes coverage from all Clashes and PPVs approximately three weeks after the event. Unfortunately there are no immediate plans for a UK tour or for any further video releases. As always, negotiations are constantly taking place and we will bring you news of any developments as soon as they are known.

The best ever

Hulk Hogan is, without a doubt, the greatest star ever in professional wrestling. He has done more to promote the sport than any other wrestler and is responsible for the popularity of the sport. Another federation has a wrestler who says he is the best there is, best there was and best there ever will be...still you've got to believe in yourself even if nobody else does. The truth is clear to see the best wrestler is Hulk Hogan and the best competition is found in WCW. Accept no inferior imitations.

TP, La Jolla, CA

Mr. T

Can you tell me if Mr T is going to start wrestling full-time in WCW as I haven't seen him since Starrcade? I hope he does. Congratulations on the article in Issue 2 about my favorite wrestlers, The Three Faces of Fear...they are awesome.

S Phillips, Miami, FL

Mr T. has no plans at the moment to return to wrestling, however he is watching the back of his friend Hulk Hogan and is ready to come to his aid.

Diggin' Duggan

I think Hacksaw is the coolest wrestler. I watch him on Saturday mornings and on Sundays. Can you ask him who his toughest opponent has been?

Diane Rutledge, Cumming, GA

Hacksaw says, "Diane, thank you for the support. It means a lot. The two toughest men I have wrestled are Vader and Meng."

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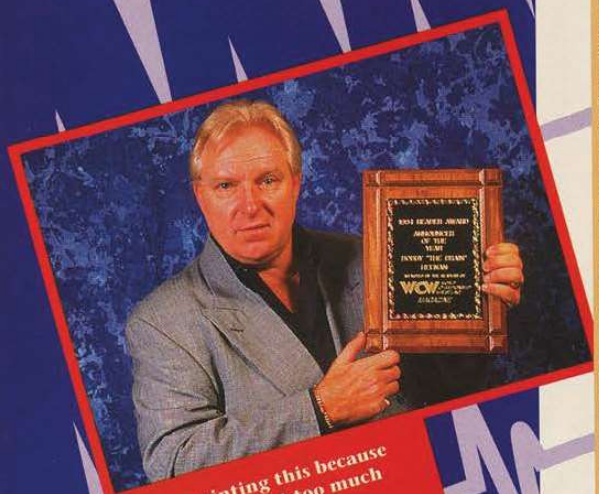
BRAIN REACTION

ANNOUNCER OF THE YEAR Bobby "The Brain" Heenan here with installment 3 of the column written by the only broadcast-journalist worth the paper this rag is printed on.

Can't The Nasty Boys afford a decent haircut



I'm printing this because you can't get too much of a good thing

First, I want to let everyone know that I am about as angry as Vader is these days, believe it or not. In last month's column a colon was used in one sentence and yet when I submitted my Pulitzer draft, it had a semi-colon. Obviously that idiotic editor, Bowman, can't tell the difference between a colon and a semi-colon. Then again, why am I even mentioning this to you humanoids...there aren't but three of you who can actually read an 800-word column in less than three days!

Speaking about the staff at WCW Magazine, if they think that by presenting me with the Announcer of the Year award they will be welcome at my Beverly Hills estate...forget it guys! After all where was the competition? Gordon Solie? Hah! He's a Jurassic Park legacy, certainly no wrestling legend. Dusty Rhodes? Hah! He hasn't spoken a worthwhile word in, oh, six years and if he did who could understand it? Pass the grits, Dusty is hungry. Tony Schiavone? Hah! He's so dumb that he makes Dave Sullivan look like a Nobel Prize winner. I did think about making the column this month into an acceptance speech but what's the point.

Is it possible that Vader is crazier than Chris Cruise is stupid? Vader is, quite simply, a lunatic. He has no respect for anything, person or property. Not that I blame him...Hulk Hogan (boy, I get really nausceous just saying the name) has been dodging him for how many months now? Well, judging from SuperBrawl V, I would say the demise of Pukeamania is at hand. Hogan, you can run from Vader (and that would be my advice) but you cannot hide. Not in limousines anyway. When Vader smashed that limousine window in Baltimore, even I was scared...and Vader and I are close personal friends. Trust me Hogan, phone your life insurance agent! Your time as World Champion is now at an end and the biggest celebration will be at my mansion. One other thing...give your barber a ring because Vader is going to hit you so hard you'll start growing hair.

Speaking of 'dos, what's up with that mop on Randy Savage's head and what about The Nasty Boys...can't any of them afford a decent haircut?

The tag team situation in WCW is now extremely volatile with five teams more than capable of winning the title. It wouldn't surprise me if in any given week we had seven different champions. The competition is that intense. Which is my favorite team? Harlem Heat. Mainly I must admit because they have the best look...er, best skilled manager. I hear Sister Sherri received more Valentine's Day flowers than Vendela, Julia Roberts and Michelle Pfieffer COMBINED...but that's understandable.

I've got a great idea, as all mine are...take that Disco Punk, Alex Wright and that pip squeak Jimmy Hart and put them in a small recording studio. Then lock the door and throw away the key!

Well that's about it for this issue you worthless ham 'n eggers. I guess I'll answer some of your banal, dumb letters as I wait for the wax to dry on my Rolls – that's my Rolls Royce, stupid.

Dear Bobby,
If you could construct the perfect wrestler, which particular features would it contain?
Bobby Anderson, Mansfield, OH

"That's simple, Booby. He would have the skill of Ric Flair and my brain!"

Brain,
What do you think of the abilities of your colleagues Larry Zbyszko, Dusty Rhodes and Chris Cruise?
Joan Waters, Baton Rouge, LA

"I cannot believe you consider the three stooges to be colleagues of mine. Their abilities to wash cars and take out the trash are very good. As for announcing, each of them are terrible."

Herr Heenan,
I am going to write to the powers-that-be at WCW about the treatment you have given my countryman, "Das Wunderkind" Alex Wright. He is going to be a big star and you're just jealous you don't mange him. I couldn't imagine what advice you could give him if you did, he's already the best.
Oliver Lehrmann, Hannover, Germany

"You ain't seen nothing yet! So go ahead write your letter...I guess that means you've passed third-grade writing. One bit of advice...I won't charge for it either...we don't generally use crayons to write letters in the United States!"

Brain,
I cannot believe some of the things you say about other WCW personalities, even though you purport to be close friends with some of them. How do you explain yourself when they later watch your broadcasts?
Al Massaro, Trenton, NJ

"Al, everything I say on the air is fact; I'm a broadcast-journalist with a solid reputation to maintain a la Dan Rather, Peter Jennings and Ted Koppel. I broadcast without fear and with just a few favors."

Heenan,
I don't believe you have any friends and, quite frankly, I'm not surprised.
Brian Dean, Warrington, Lancs

"Brian, when YOUR only friend in the world is Barney, I don't think you're in a position to question me about who I care to associate with."

Dear Mr Brain
I am just writing to let you know that I have voted for you as WCW's top announcer because you are the best. However I just want to apologize to you now because I am sure the editor of this magazine will see to it that someone less deserving wins.
J. Patel, Handsworth, Birmingham

"You're a smart person, one of a few. However, it seems this magazine may have some integrity after all as I did receive the award. If you want to make sure I win next time, which is very nice of you, the way we do things in America is...you send money ($50s and $100s will do) to the one you are voting for. So feel free."

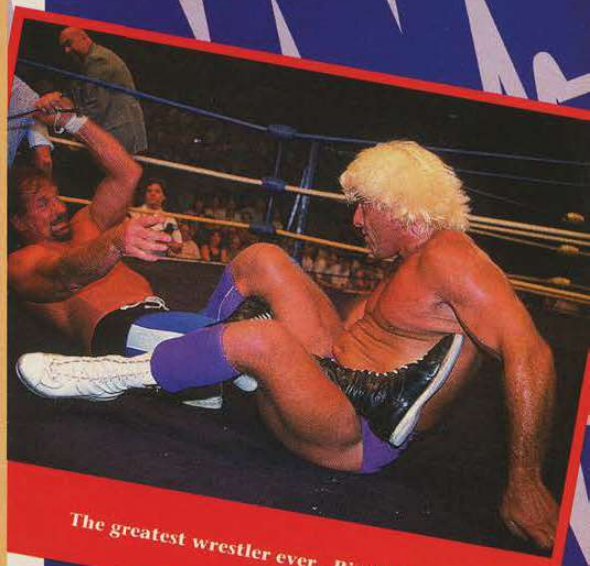
Dear Bobby,
I cannot agree with your assessment that Sherri is beautiful. Now if you said that about the Diamond Doll, that I could see. She is perfection in a woman. I'd do anything to get a date with her. Any suggestions?
Benjy Solomon, Miami, FL

"Obviously you've spent to much time in the Florida sun if you can't clearly see Sherri's beauty. As for the Diamond Doll, my first and only bit of advice would be...lose the bicycle for dates."

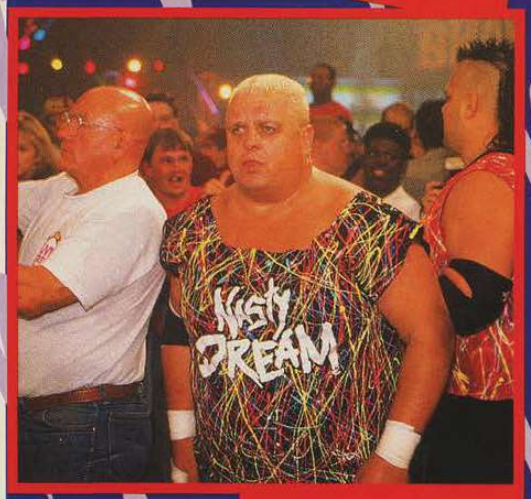
Dear Mr Heenan,
Were your parents eternal optimists or just practical jokers when they named you "The Brain?" If you were born today they would probably call you "Forrest" or "The Gumpster."
Patricia Woodall, Poole, Dorset

"That was such a stupid question, I'm not going to dignify it with an answer. In fact I'm not going to answer any more this month and may not return next month. It's obvious the pearls of wisdom I share with you are beyond your comprehension. Hardly surprising when the average I.Q. of the readers of this magazine is 12. Too bad humanoids... it's your loss so blame Patricia."

Sincerely yours,
"The Brain"



The greatest wrestler ever...Ric Flair



Pass the grits!

Bobby "The Brain" Heenan is the co-host of the WCW Main Event and WCW Saturday Night programs on Superstation TBS. He also serves as color commentator on WCW Clash and PPV broadcasts.

Editor's Note:
The opinions expressed throughout this column are those of Bobby "The Brain" Heenan. The publishers of WCW magazine take no responsibility for the comments and apologize for any offense given.

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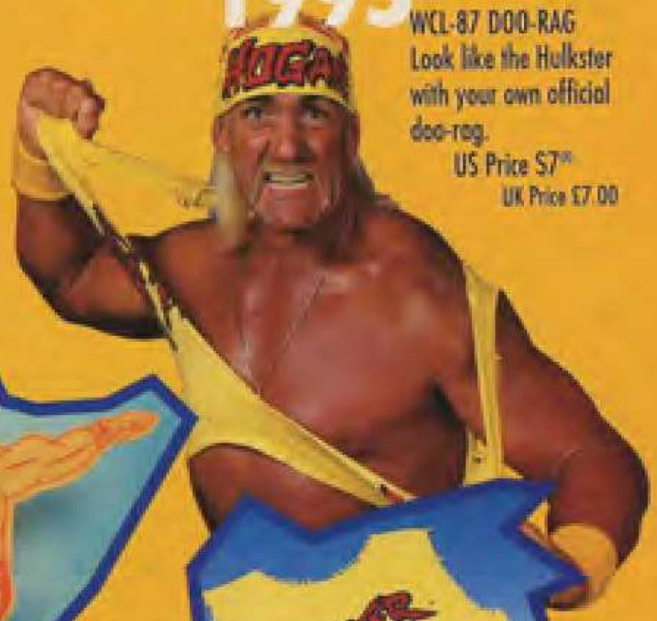

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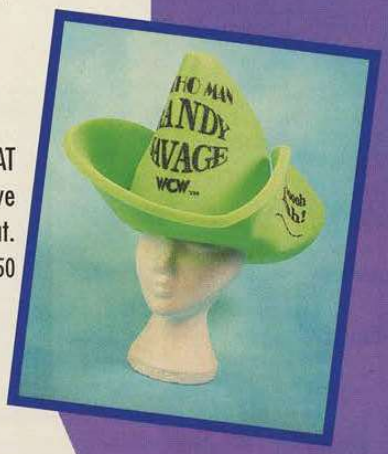

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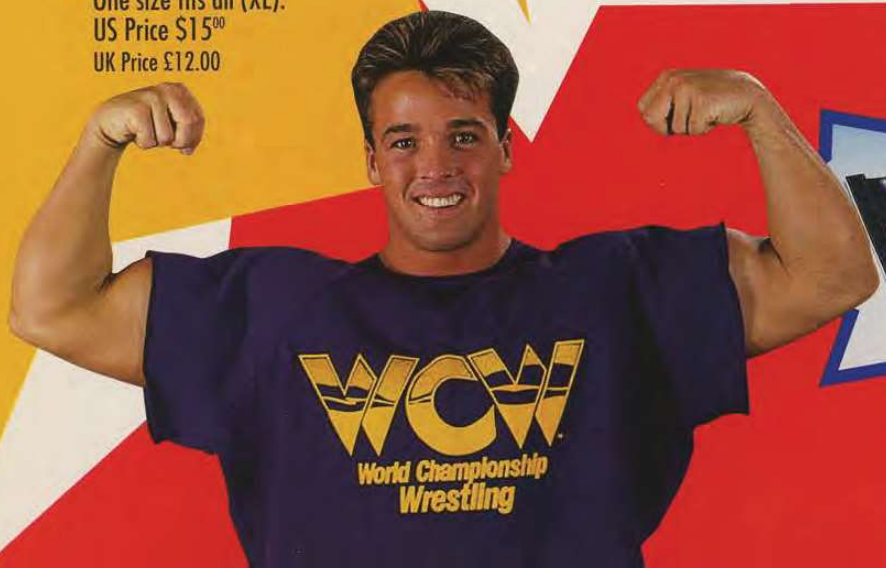

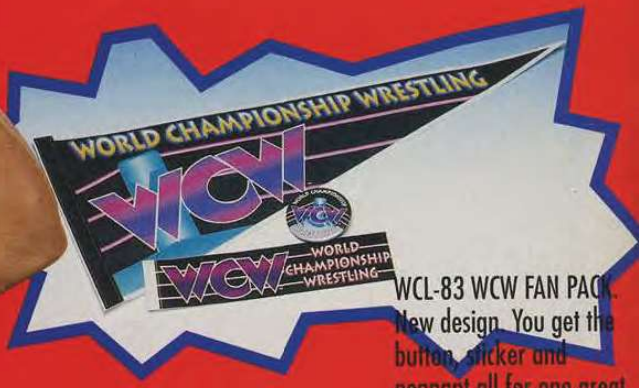

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